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# THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595  
VOLUME No. 57, ISSUE No. 23



## CREDIT/NO CREDIT COURSES

# Resolution gives students latitude to explore

## Program does not include core, major requirements

By STEPHANIE GOAD  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Beginning in the fall, Missouri Southern students will have the opportunity to experience courses outside their major without threatening their grade-point average. According to Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, the new credit/no credit program will take some of the pressure off students who are seeking knowledge in a course outside their field of discipline. "The faculty passed a resolution that will allow our students to take classes outside their major and outside the core classes," he said. "The

credit/no credit classes will allow the students to explore the curriculum and not be fearful of a grade." For example, if a business major expressed an interest in art, he or she could take a course and receive the credit hours without receiving a grade. Bitterbaum wanted to stress, however, that the program does not include core classes, nor does it include courses within the student's major. "It is really to encourage students to take any class that they like at the College, other than their major and the core, without having to be concerned with the grade," he said. "They can just sit there and learn the information; they will still have to take a test, but they won't have to worry about harming their GPA." Bitterbaum also said that once a student enrolls in a credit/no credit course, the situation

stands regardless of classroom performance. "Let's say the student goes in there and is just doing beautifully and grade-wise is doing very well; it's too late," he said. "The student will not be able to obtain a grade. You get the hours toward graduation, but you don't get anything toward your GPA." Bitterbaum also said in order to receive credit hours toward graduation, the student must pass the course. "We won't know whether they made an A or B," he said. "But, what we would be pleased with is the fact that they had the initiative to take the course." Although the credit/no credit program is open to anyone, the number of courses a student can take is limited. "We only allow you to take three [credit/no

credit courses], but we want to encourage people to do that," Bitterbaum said. Many other colleges and universities already provide the credit/no credit program. "We're one of the few places that has never had this type of program," Bitterbaum said. Some institutions label this type of program as "pass/fail" instead of "credit/no credit." "It is the same concept, but we didn't want to be punitive, so we call it credit/no credit," Bitterbaum said. According to Dr. Eugene Mouser, College registrar, Southern has had a couple of courses that operate along the same lines as the credit/no credit program. "We've had student teaching and recital attendance courses for several years," he said. "They both are required courses [within their major]; the students just don't receive a grade." □

It is really to encourage students to take any class that they like at the College.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum  
Vice president,  
academic affairs

## CAMPUS GOVERNMENT

# Student Senate elections heat up down the stretch

## Student Senate Officer Elections



**EDEN ABER**  
OFFICE SEEKING:  
Senate president  
YEAR/MAJOR:  
Junior mathematics major



**JOSH PHILLIPS**  
OFFICE SEEKING:  
Senate president  
YEAR/MAJOR:  
Sophomore elementary education major



**SANDY FISK**  
OFFICE SEEKING:  
Senate vice president  
YEAR/MAJOR:  
Sophomore psychology major



**JASON TALLEY**  
OFFICE SEEKING:  
Senate vice president  
YEAR/MAJOR:  
Senior biology major

Melanie Spalding and Jill Bever, both senior criminal justice majors, are running unopposed for the offices of secretary and treasurer, respectively.

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD  
STAFF WRITER

As the semester winds down, students have one more thing to do to prepare for next fall — vote. Elections for new Student Senate officers will be held Monday and Tuesday. Joshua Phillips, sophomore elementary education major, and Eden Aber, junior mathematics major, are seeking the office of president. Aber served as vice president this year and Phillips was treasurer. "I've been in Senate since my freshman year, and I want to step up the ladder," Aber said. "I'd like to carry on the United Way idea that Grant Miller brought up this year." Phillips also began his involvement with Senate as a freshman. "Next year will be my third year," he said. "We had a successful year this year, distributing more than \$17,000 to campus groups. "I'd like to see that money continue to be fairly distributed, and I'd also like to revive discussion about making faculty evaluations public." Sandy Fisk, sophomore psychology major, and Jason Talley, senior biology major, are running for vice president. Fisk served as secretary this year. Melanie Spalding and Jill Bever, both senior criminal justice majors, are running unopposed for the offices of secretary and treasurer, respectively. All currently enrolled students are eligible to vote, and absentee ballots are available in Room 221 of the Billingsly Student Center. Students enrolled in night classes will have the opportunity to vote in the BSC from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday. □

## PEANUT BUTTER AND... JAM



Greg Ray (right), senior marketing major, prepares to throw down a slam in the residence hall basketball courts Wednesday afternoon.

## INTERNATIONAL MISSION

# Students view semester theme as positive avenue

By RICK ROGERS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With Missouri Southern's new international mission concept of naming the 1997 fall semester "The China Semester" comes the opportunity for students to embark on new adventures in international education. Whether it's new, challenging courses, entertainment programs, lectures, or special events, College President Julio Leon hopes Southern's focus on a certain country or region will broaden a student's international horizon. Some specific activities or groups Leon said could be part of the Chinese celebration are lectures, Chinese films featured in the international film festival, Chinese national athletic teams, Chinese musicians, and the world-renowned Chinese Acrobats coming to campus. Even though the College plans to provide a wide variety of activities pertaining to the Chinese theme in hopes to pique various interests, Nathan Camp, sophomore music education major, thinks the College should focus more on topics within the United States. "I think it is helpful for us to learn about what is going on in other nations, but I think there are a lot of issues that we have to resolve in our own nation," Camp said. "We need to work and learn about those types of issues, like racial issues

### Assignment:

HONG KONG

April 10:  
Hong Kong's future  
April 17:  
Goekel Symposium  
April 24:  
The China Semester  
May 1:  
The Chart's voyage



## STUDENT FEATURE

# Lau bracing for vast changes in native Hong Kong

## Student LifeBeat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

If someone were to hear Erica Lau tell it, she's more the stereotypical American teenage girl than most who would seemingly be the role from around Joplin. Lau, a 19-year-old marketing major from Hong Kong, is ready to head to her homeland for what many believe is the biggest global event of the century — the transfer of power over Hong Kong from Great Britain to China. This is Lau's first semester at Missouri Southern, and it could be her last if she isn't allowed to return from her island home. "I already have a 5-year visa in the United States, so they have to let me come back. I think," she said taking a break from her accounting homework and laundry.

Lau started her American adventure in Kansas, a tiny village in the heartland of the U.S. called Peabody. "I came to America to explore," she said. "I got to Kansas because my organization made me go and I had no clue; I've never heard of Kansas before. I'd heard of California, New York... I was like, Kansas! What is it, American? Or anything?" Lau gave up one of her favorite pastimes by moving to Peabody — mall shopping. She claims to be the quintessential mall shopper, who doesn't consider Joplin's Northpark much relief. "I miss my family, my friends," she said. "I miss the malls! I don't want country. I can live without country. I'm a city girl." The thought of not being able to come back to Joplin doesn't seem to frighten Lau, who said the thought of Chinese rule does bother her. She's afraid the people of Hong Kong will not stand for

any changes in the amount of freedom they are allowed. "We've been affected by America and the western world," she said. "We like democracy and freedom. If we don't like something, like the government, we're going to sit up and tell them. They won't accept any opposition from anybody." Lau is adamant about her feelings toward Hong Kong. The growth of the city is just fine for her. "It's always growing and growing," she said. "It gets better everyday." Even though the island will become a part of China once again after 150 years, Lau will always consider herself a part of her homeland. "I consider myself a Hong Konger," she said. "I am Chinese, but I do think the people who live in Hong Kong that are originally from Hong Kong are different from the Chinese. Not in nationality, but in customs and in living styles." □



Erica Lau, a native of Hong Kong and a sophomore marketing major at Southern, says her life has been affected by America and the western world where ever she lives.

J.L. GRIFFIN  
The Chart

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## What's Inside



## SPECIAL WONDERS

### AROUND CAMPUS:

Even though the participants were the focus of Friday's Special Olympics, the volunteers also gained new, vital experiences...page 6

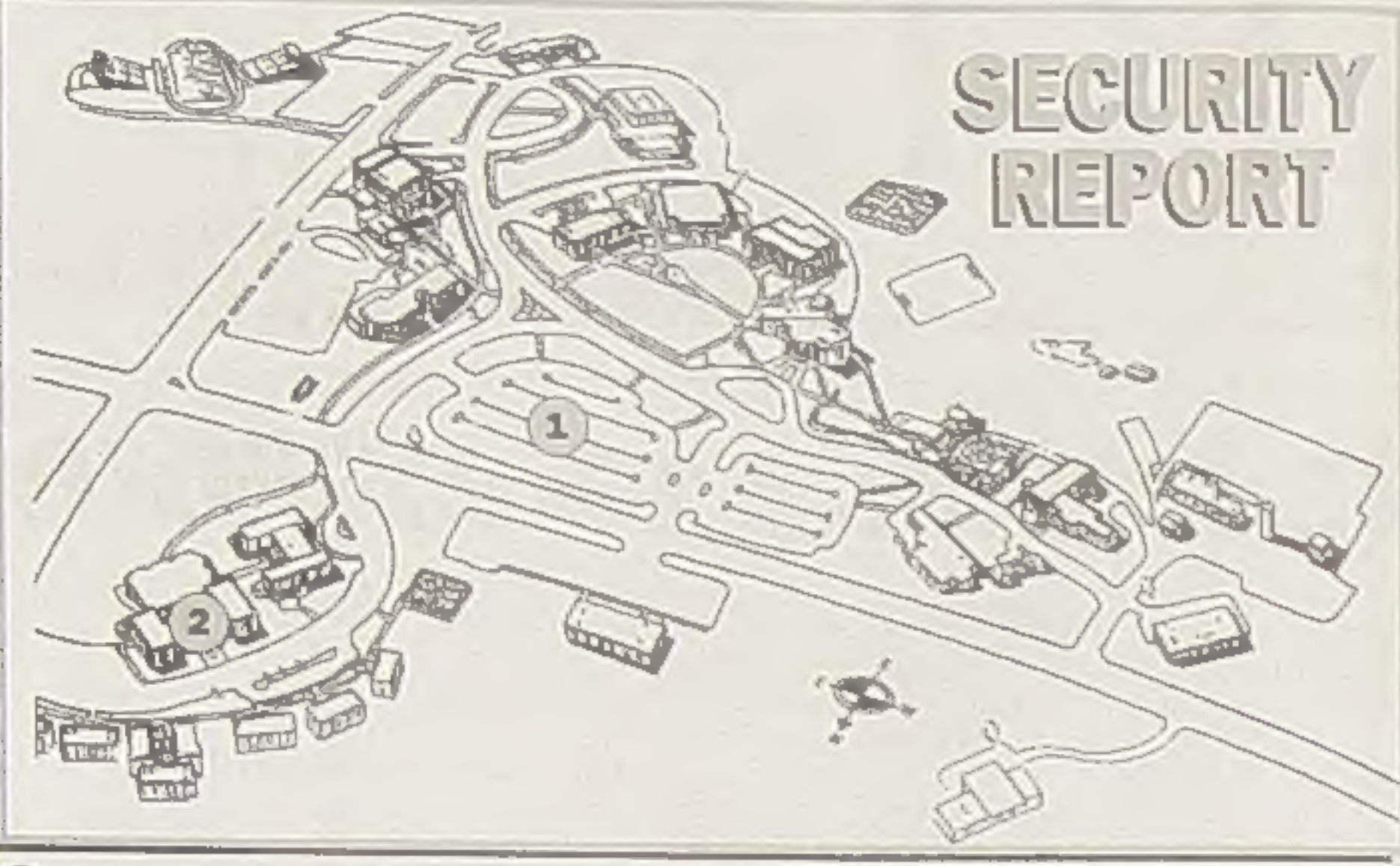


### CITY NEWS:

Joplin citizens living in the vicinity of McClelland and Wildcat parks have voiced their complaints regarding acts of sexual misconduct, and now the Joplin Police Department admits the problem may be increasing...page 8







### SECURITY REPORT

Location	Date	Time	Incident
LOT 39	4/18/97	4:50 p.m.	Tom J. Stevens Jr., sophomore biology major, contacted campus security in reference to someone hitting his 1984 S-10 truck. The vehicle showed damage to his passenger side door.
BLAINE HALL	4/18/97	4:20 p.m.	Michael J. Coates, freshman English major, reported a theft in Blaine Hall Rm. 214. He said approximately 200 CDs were missing.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

## CHINA: Fall semester to feature lectures, entertainment

From page 1

on this campus."

Because his educational focus revolves around the performing arts, Camp said he will benefit from the Chinese theme through music.

"They are supposed to bring in some groups who are going to come in and play a couple of concerts with non-traditional instruments concern-

ing their heritage," he said.

Jason Kiefer, a freshmen history education major, thinks the naming of semesters after a specific country will benefit everyone at Southern.

"We are going into a global economy, and everything is going to be global in the next century," Kiefer said. "We are going to need to know everything we can about every other country that is going to be compet-

ing against the United States and helping the United States."

Even though keeping up with international affairs isn't always an easy task for Kiefer, he still takes an interest in what's happening around the globe.

"That way I know what is going on a little more and how they go along with the United States on certain issues," he said.

### THE CHINA SEMESTER

## Schmidt to offer new courses

### Instructor hoping to give students 'better perspective'

By STEPHANIE WARD  
EDUCATION EDITOR

The fall semester of 1997 has been named "The China Semester." Several courses Missouri Southern will include studies dealing with China.

Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history, will teach two of these courses, the Geography of Asia and the History of China.

"The Geography of Asia course actually came out of the revised geography minor that we've created," he said.

"Since my specialty is Asia, I wanted to offer a regional geography like this. And, we had already planned we were going to enhance this to offer it (the course) this fall, which coincidentally, happened to be The China Semester. It worked out pretty well."

Schmidt said the same situation occurred with the History of China course, which covers the early development of China to the present.

"In the History of China course, I hope to show the long heritage of China — how much Chinese cultures still affect decision making today," he said. "Some of that came out in the symposium earlier in the week, about trying to understand the Chinese for who they

are and why they make certain decisions."

Schmidt said he agreed with Leslie Gelb, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, when Gelb said "Americans don't really understand Asians and we don't really understand the Chinese." Gelb spoke at the College last week as part of the Harry and Bernice International Symposium.

Part of Schmidt's purpose in offering History of China was to look at these issues and provide students with a better perspective of Chinese civilization over time.

The Geography of Asia, an upper-division course, covers political, cultural, physical, and economic geography.

"It will have a substantial China component in it," Schmidt said. "At least a fourth of the semester is devoted exclusively to China."

"The course, overall, will obviously look at things like what is China's culture like and what kinds of different national groups do you find living in China. They're all different. People tend to think China is just full of Chinese people. But there are different ethnic groups, different nationalities represented within China's borders, and that's really very interesting to look at."

This course, Schmidt said, covers what geographers call Monsoonal Asia, which covers South Asia (from Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh), Southeast Asia (including places like Vietnam and Indonesia), and East Asia (includ-

ing China and as far north as Japan).

He believes geography is something few people really understand, and many people think of grade school geography — learning states, names of places, where they are, and similar things.

"They don't really understand it's much more involved than that, but then in my opinion, much more interesting than that," Schmidt said.

"There's so much more to geography than just knowing where things are. It's really analyzing why they're there and what takes place within each country, why development takes place the way it does, and that sort of thing. So, I'm hoping that if students understand, if they're aware of complexities of what geography is all about, it might be more interesting to take the course."

Schmidt plans to incorporate the return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule in both courses.

"I'm going to spend some time talking about the transition in the geography course, but I also plan to spend a small amount of time talking about British involvement in China, in particular in Hong Kong," he said.

"I'll talk a little bit about Hong Kong's development, how it came about, and what the British experience was there, and how the Chinese have felt about the British being there."

Schmidt encourages interested students to contact him for more information at 625-9588.

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Oktoberfest Marzen  
Salvator  
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OUTSTANDING GRADUATE

# Psychology major takes home honor

By RHONDA CLARK  
STAFF WRITER

66  
Get involved, because that's what is going to help you more than anything else. Get involved and try to make a difference.

Amy Mayberry  
1997 Outstanding Graduate

Even with a long list of accomplishments, Amy Mayberry quickly admits her highest achievement is being named the 1997 Outstanding Graduate at Missouri Southern.

"I'm very flattered and excited because I did not expect it at all," said the senior psychology major.

An awards committee of the College's Alumni Association made the selection from 12 candidates nominated by faculty.

The Outstanding Graduate must meet criteria based on campus activities, character, leadership, and grade-point average.

"Of the candidates we had, they were all wonderful — a very outstanding group of students nominated," said Richard Beydler, president of the alumni board.

He said Mayberry met and exceeded all the criteria and was nominated by more than one faculty member. He believes the award is a special honor and a way of telling the student selected "well done."

During her five years at Southern, Mayberry has been a staff assistant for the Residence Hall Association, a student senator, vice president of the Psychology Club, president of the Psi Chi psychology honors society, president of the Wesley Foundation, a College Orientation leader, and student orientation student director. Her love of music led to many fond memories playing flute and tenor saxophone in the

concert band, marching band, jazz band, and pep band.

"The music group is a very tight group of people," she said. "There's usually 80 people in band, and it's kind of like a family."

A native of Ironton, Mo., Mayberry said the motivation to succeed comes from within and from her parents, Marilyn and Gerold Mayberry.

Southern instructors Roger Paige, professor of psychology, and Robert Meeks, assistant professor of music, also inspired her.

"Dr. Paige has been a real motivating factor," she said. "He's helped me out a lot whenever I've had questions, and he's given me good advice."

Mayberry, who has a minor in music, said Meeks is a "wonderful, down-to-earth person" who always encouraged

her along the road psychology was taking her. Time management helped her organize activities and maintain an overall 3.94 GPA and a 4.0 GPA in her psychology courses. Mayberry believes it was worth the effort and offers this advice to students.

"Get involved, because that's what is going to help you more than anything else," she said. "I think my pet peeve is people who gripe and complain about something but never try to change it. So, get involved and try to make a difference."

Besides the Outstanding Graduate award, she was named outstanding senior in psychology, received the Dr. Glenn Dolence Outstanding Leader Award, the All American Scholar Collegiate Award, and is a member of the National Dean's List.

Mayberry plans to pursue a graduate degree in clinical psychology. She found direction for her career at the Ozark Center Turnaround Ranch for abused children.

"After working there, I decided children and adolescents were definitely going to be my focus," Mayberry said. "They're really neat to work with because they are excited. They're just so different, and I think it's easier to make a difference in their lives."

When Mayberry is honored at the 21st annual Honors Convocation at 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 7 in Taylor Auditorium, it will mark the end of an "outstanding" career at Southern.

"It seems like I've been here for so long. It's natural," she said. "I'll miss it." □

## A History of Excellence



1997  
Amy  
Mayberry

1973-Jeffrey Dymott; 1974-Kreta Cable; 1975-Kevin Herd; 1976-Kerry Anders; 1977-Janice Kiser; 1978-James Moeskau; 1979-Kathy Lay; 1980-Cherrie Dickerman; 1981-Shawn De Graff; 1982-Shelia Peters; 1983-Richard Gibbons; 1984-Beth Barlet; 1985-Sara Beth Rice, Suzanne Gallagher, and Todd Thelen; 1986-Christie Amos; 1987-John Harvill; 1988-Theresa Honeyball; 1989-Susan Paulson and Scott Fields; 1990-Anna Miller; 1991-Jacquelyn Johnson; 1992-Brian Vowels and Mary Hanewinkel; 1993-Brian Nichols; 1994-Dorcia Meares and Roderick Smith; 1995-Brandon Rhinehart; 1996-Stacy Schoen

## SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

### 600 young authors flock to annual conference

More than 600 young writers in grades first through sixth will be on campus at Missouri Southern for the Ninth Annual Young Authors Conference on Saturday, May 3.

Students and their parents will meet guest authors Pam Munoz Ryan and Vicki Grove along with local cartoonist Nic Frising.

Ryan is the author of several books, five of which will be featured during the conference here. One of her books, *One Hundred Is A Family*, will be given to the first through third graders. Other books by Ryan will be available for purchase. Among those is *The Flag We Love*, which has caught the attention of school librarians across the country. A versatile writer, she is known for implementing both prose and poetry in her works.

Grove, a Missouri writer, will be featured with the fourth through sixth graders. Students in that age group will receive her book, *Rimwalkers*. Two of her books, *Wishing Star* and *Fastest Friend in the West*, appeared on the Mark Twain Honor Book List. *Rimwalkers* was recognized by the Junior Library Guild. Grove has had one book, *Junglerama*, translated into German.

Registration opens at noon in the lobby of Taylor Performing Arts Center.

Students are selected to participate in the program by submitting bound and illustrated books for review. The students' books will be on display at 3:45 p.m. in Taylor Auditorium.

The event is a cooperative effort between Southern's department of teacher education and the Jasper County International Reading Association. □

### Department doles out honors at awards dinner

Top students in the English department at Missouri Southern were recognized at the English and philosophy awards banquet Saturday.

Nine department honors were announced. Some of the award winners were selected after being nominated for recognition, while others entered competitions judged by a panel of English and philosophy department faculty members. Some awards included a cash stipend.

A highlight of this year's banquet included addresses by long-time English department faculty members Becky Spracklen Kanan and Mike Bauer, both of whom were undergraduate students at Southern.

Both were also recipients of the only two awards issued during their college experience. Spracklen Kanan was awarded the Outstanding English Major Award and Bauer won the Greef Award. □

### Kappa Delta Pi installs new year's leadership

New officers were installed recently for the Missouri Southern Rho Sigma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education.

The new officers are April Davidson, Canterville, president; Chris Samuel, Joplin, treasurer; Grant Miller, Neodesha, Kan., foundations; and Stephanie Weil, Butler, historian. The officers will serve for the 1997-98 academic year.

Fourteen Southern students were honored for outstanding academic performance in the teacher education program.

The students were initiated in the Rho Sigma Chapter. Students selected have a 3.5 or better grade-point average, full admission to the teacher education program, and faculty recommendations.

The chapter's 1997 "Honor an Educator Award" was presented to Kaye Abight, who serves as the chapter's counselor. □

## Adamson heads up area search

### Oklahoma recruiting elevates competition

By DEBORAH SOLOMON  
MANAGING EDITOR

With the competition of several community colleges, Tulsa University, and Pittsburg State University, running the recruiting race in northeast Oklahoma has been a challenge for Missouri Southern's admissions office.

But due to recent staff additions, the admissions office may be seen as a contender for recruiting students.

Mary Adamson, admissions counselor, was hired in March to concentrate on southeast Kansas and northeast Oklahoma, where recruiting has been light.

Adamson, a 1996 marketing and management graduate of Southern, worked for Eagle Picher Industries where she then continued her contact with the College as the divi-

sional recruiting coordinator.

"I really enjoyed the job, but the most," she said. "When I found out about the position here, I applied. I really wanted to work for Missouri Southern."

Robin Hicklin, admissions/financial aid counselor, said although he and Clay Deem, admissions/financial aid counselor, have spent some time in southeast Kansas and northeast Oklahoma, they had not been able to concentrate on those areas enough.

"We have been serving that area, but not as well as we could," Hicklin said. "We don't have the man hours; schools are open only so many days a year."

With the addition of Adamson, Hicklin said Southern will be able to distribute its concentration better.

"You have to ask yourself, 'Do you ignore Joplin, Carl Junction, Webb City, and Neosho and go to Tulsa, or do you try to better serve the schools here?' You have to serve your base first; then you try to spread out as far as you can,"

Hicklin said. "Now we have one more arm to go out and get those people."

Adamson said in the month she has been here she has enjoyed the job.

"I've gone with Clay to visit some high schools and gone to some job fairs," she said. "The high school visits have been a lot of fun."

The job requires Adamson to be on the road about 70 percent of the time, but she said she doesn't mind because it will keep the job interesting.

"I'm thrilled to take the southeast Kansas and northeast Oklahoma area," she said. "I'm from Girard, Kan., so it's nice to be home."

In addition to her duties as an admissions counselor, Adamson is also helping with the track and cross country teams and organizing "Tuesday night at the track," a community project that opens Southern's track to the community.

"I'm also working on my master's degree; I have about two years left," she said. "My goal is to teach a class at Southern." □

## SPANISH VILLAGE

## Camp rolls out summer plan

By DEBORAH SOLOMON  
MANAGING EDITOR

Many area 10- to 13-year-olds will be going south of the border at Missouri Southern this summer. The youth will be attending the Spanish Village June 15-20.

In its second year, the village will offer the same basic curriculum as last year, submerging the villagers into a total Spanish culture.

Upon arrival to the village, students will receive a Southern passport and must pass through immigration and have their passports stamped at the entrance.

They will exchange their money for pesetas, move into new casas (homes), and meet new amigos (friends).

The children will live in Blaine and McCormick halls all week attending several different study groups where they will learn cultures of countries such as Colombia, Mexico, and Argentina.

Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center at Southern, said the language camp will be good for students who have had experience with the Spanish language as well as those who haven't.

"This is a wonderful opportunity even if you know the language," she said. "You learn about many different cultures as well as the countries."

For students who attended the first camp, Karmanova said there would be plenty for them to learn.

"We will accommodate the needs of those who are coming for a second time," she said. "There will be different levels so they will have a more

challenging program so it won't be boring."

Peggy Hagedorn, a Spanish teacher at Joplin High School, will be returning for another year as the camp's dean.

"I think we (the teachers) will be more comfortable this year because we have done it before," she said. "Last year we worked all year planning it."

The language village is based on a program from the Concordia Language Camp in Minnesota and according to organizers, Southern's version is successful.

"I have talked to parents who say their children can't wait to come back," Karmanova said. "One mother told me her daughter, who hadn't been to a camp in three years, didn't want to leave last year."

The teachers for the camp will consist of Spanish instructors from Joplin and Webb City school districts and will be assisted by counselors made up of current Southern Spanish students.

The students will have the opportunity to interact with Spanish students in other countries.

"I subscribe with a group who does Internet exchange through the classroom," Karmanova said. "We will try to establish contact so the students can interact with Spanish students somewhere else."

There will be other opportunities for the campers to learn about the different cultures as well. Activities will include watching videos of the countries, eating authentic foods from Spanish-speaking countries, learning dances like the tango and merengue, reading Spanish books, and playing games like Spanish scrabble.

"The main goal is for them (campers) to have a good time and in the process to accidentally learn Spanish," Hagedorn said. □



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Concentrating on northeast Oklahoma and southeast Kansas, Mary Adamson, admissions counselor, prepares for a recent college fair.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

## Casino Night, elections finish Senate's semester

By MICHELLE CONTY  
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Elections for Student Senate officers will be held Monday and Tuesday dominated the Senate meeting Wednesday night.

Thirty senators were present at the meeting — the last Senate meeting of the semester. The year was closed with a \$23 treasury balance.

The ballot box for officer elections will be in the Anderson Justice Center, Matthews Hall, Taylor Hall, and the Billingsly Student Center on Monday.

The box will be in BSC from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday.

Eden Aber, the Senate's current vice president, is running against Senate treasurer Josh Phillips for the president's seat.

Senate secretary Sandy Fisk is competing with junior senator Jason

Talley for the vice president's position. Senior senator Jill Bever is running unopposed for treasurer, while Melanie Spalding, junior senator, is running unopposed for secretary.

"If you know any students who are really interested and really care, encourage them to go out and vote," said Doug Carnahan, Senate adviser.

On Wednesday, the Senate will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Biology Pond for a picnic.

Members will be passing out awards and swearing in new officers.

"My main purpose of this year was to serve the students," said Senate President Grant Miller. "I'd like to see all of you back again next year; hopefully I'll be out there (around the table) with you next year."

The annual Casino Night will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight on Thursday, May 7, in the Student Life Center.

A new element in Casino Night was added Wednesday.

There will be a barbecue with AmeriServe selling hamburgers and hot dogs.

Admission for Casino Night is \$3. □



Miller



EDITOR'S COLUMN

# Lack of church doesn't mean I don't believe

I belong to no religion. I'm not confused about this. I've never been baptized in any church, under any guise of sacrament.

I am what several people refer to as a heathen, which is not necessarily true. I believe in God. I believe in a God that I want to believe in, not some caricature that others want me to.

I've been asked, on occasion, what religion I am. I usually say I'm Mormon, if I'm pressed. This is simply because this is the church I've spent the most time in. If it weren't for those endless Sunday morning sessions during the summers of my youth



J.L. Griffin  
Executive Editor

Idaho, I would probably call myself a Baptist. This is because that was the church my best friend belonged to when I was growing up. Saturday night sleepovers consistently translated to Sunday morning services. Pulling up in third place for my faith is Catholicism. When I moved to St. Louis in 1987, in order to impress girlfriends' parents I would go to church. Undoubtedly, those services would be Catholic.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoy going to church. I love that feeling of wholeness you get by singing along with people who believe in something so strongly. I just can't muster that same faith in any of these codes.

My father, I think, is Episcopalian. My stepfather is Mormon. My mother simply labels herself a Christian. I, then, am the religious equivalent of a mutt.

This doesn't bother me. But it sure bothers other people.

I have been asked to accept Jesus Christ as my personal savior, and I have, but I think it was more to have the preacher move on and leave me alone to contemplate my actions. I did it for them and not for me.

My God doesn't mind that I don't show up to church but maybe once or twice a year.

I believe as long as I don't hurt anyone in my quest to be myself, I'll still have an invitation to heaven when my time is up. So far I'm doing pretty good.

I pity the Pious who pity me.

They believe since I have no spiritual direction, I must really be missing something. It is those who believe in one set of ideals who are missing out. Because I believe in no set religious doctrine, I'm free to taste everything anyone considers holy without any preconceived notions.

I'm free of spiritual prejudice, which no one devout in any religion can say.

There are thousands, maybe millions, of people like me out there. Not necessarily confused, but more than intrigued.

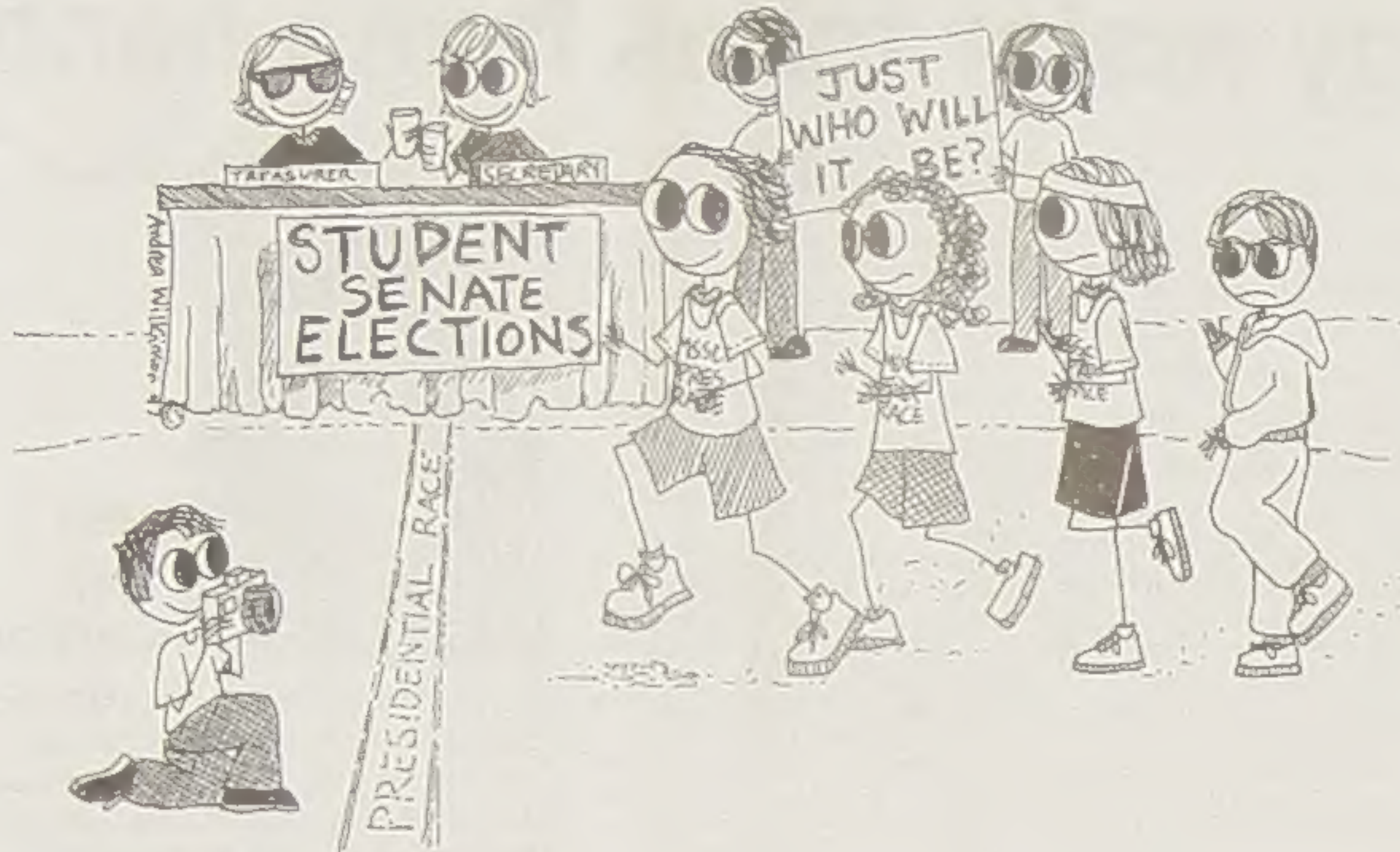
It's this constant pressure to conform to one sect or another that confuses us. Why should we?

Am I not allowed at anyone's dinner table any longer because I'm not of a certain faith?

I enjoy praying with anyone. I believe it works. I just don't believe that because I am of a single group, only my prayers will be answered.

Religion is incredible because it is the handler of hope. Without religion, it would be hard to believe in hope. But without a solitary religion in my life, I can see more clearly. I see through several sets of eyes.

I am not confused, but with all these religions to contend with, God may very well be.



OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

## Phillips, Fisk our choices for Senate's top offices

In the quest for leadership, it is essential to take into account what the would-be leaders stand for.

As it is nearly impossible for Missouri Southern students to grasp the platforms of each of the candidates for Student Senate through their poster campaigns, it seems imperative to address the oversight.

Six senators are seeking executive status next semester, but only four will be able to be seated as such.

Two of the senators are running unopposed for the lower executive seats. Jill Bever and Melanie Spalding likely will be 1997-98 Student Senate treasurer and secretary, respectively, barring some freakish coup d'etat.

Both the presidential and vice presidential races, however, have formidable candidates, each with their own outstanding qualities. Yet only two will hold seats.

Ultimately it will be up to the student body to decide who will lead the Senate into the coming year, but we believe it is our responsibility to present all information possible before that decision is made.

In the presidential race, the two candidates both have executive experience. Both are current Senate office holders.

Eden Aber, Senate vice president, and Josh Phillips, Senate treasurer, have both shone as leaders of this year's government.

Aber has substituted gracefully for current president Grant Miller when the leader was unable to attend.

Phillips, as the head of the finance committee, has shown the nerve it takes to lead a body by standing up to challenges by senators to increase or decrease amounts recom-

mended organizations. Aber lives on campus and has said this will help her identify better with students and their concerns, although as a commuter campus this fact seems irrelevant.

Phillips, who lives off campus, has the experience necessary to guide this body.

His tenure as treasurer better equips him for the job than the figurehead position of vice president.

As for the vice presidential race, it is a tale of black and white. Current Senate secretary Sandy Fisk is facing off against junior senator Jason Talley.

Choosing this candidate depends on the choice made for president. The softspoken Fisk would fit so much better with a Phillips-led government.

Talley, one of the most outspoken members of the Senate, could not possibly be the mold of the vice president. He is definite presidential candidate material. His bold style of governance meshes better with the duties of president than vice president.

Together, Talley and Phillips would likely accomplish little, as would an Aber- and Fisk-led executive board.

Phillips and Talley have made it clear they are not running together, while the female senators, Aber, Fisk, Spalding, and Bever, have formed a paper alliance turning their ticket into what some are calling a "chicket."

Don't let these alliances cloud any decisions that will be made Monday and Tuesday at election time. The best choice for next year is Josh Phillips for president and Sandy Fisk for vice president.

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: TheChart@aol.com. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

## Early pre-enrollment decision doesn't 'hold water'

In the article "Athletes now able to pre-enroll early," published in The Chart on April 3, 1997, Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, Tom Rutledge, men's track and cross country coach, and Sallie Beard, women's athletic director, conveyed their logic for allowing athletes to pre-enroll before the general student body, regardless of class.

Although each stated various reasons for this privilege, all concurred the main reason is to allow athletes to attend classes which end by 2 p.m. so they can practice and travel to team events in the afternoons.

After examining the Fall 1997 class schedule, I found this rationale extremely flawed. Roughly 816 day classes are offered with approximately 154 of those not

ending by 2 p.m.; most of which have at least two sister classes at earlier times during the day, with some offering up to 27 earlier classes throughout the week. Seventeen classes are offered once in the morning and once in the afternoon, giving students a 50/50 chance of enrolling in the early class.

Based on these figures, the rationale behind this decision just does not "hold water."

Allowing honors students, disabled students, and athletes to pre-enroll penalizes the remaining student body because they do not have special talents or needs.

I urge administrators to look again at this seriously flawed policy. If after reconsideration the administration maintains pre-

enrollment is justified for any or all of the above groups, it should take place at the beginning of each class enrollment period, not before the entire student body.

I hope the student body will also voice their displeasure to the administration and not keep it among themselves. If enough students, parents, faculty, staff, and community members speak up, hopefully our administration will reconsider their actions and not allow such a reverse discriminatory policy to stand.

Sandy Lovett  
Sophomore sociology major

IN PERSPECTIVE

## Let Southern's services help you succeed

A year ago I was a senior communications student, nervous about entering the "real world."

As frightened as I was, I never questioned whether I was well prepared. The education I received from MSSC was outstanding.

I was very blessed to work with and learn from so many talented individuals.

I came to Southern as a physical therapy major and went on to agonize over what field I wanted to study.

I observed several aspects of the physical therapy field and decided it wasn't for me. I then began to look into business, sociology, psychology, education, and communications. I changed my major six times before choosing communications. I talked to faculty members, career counselors, and professionals in each of the previous areas and finally narrowed it down to education and communications.

I knew that my end goal was to work in student services at a college or university, but I was unsure of the undergraduate path to take. I found myself finished with my core curriculum and did not know where to go from there.

When I realized that Southern had services to help people in my situation, my life became much easier. Jennifer Yazell in the career services office worked with me to explore each of the paths I was looking into. Her help was very useful, and she pointed me in the directions I needed to go.

Kelly Wilson in counseling services provided much advice because she was working in a position that was of interest to me. Dr. Vikki Spencer in the education department spent one afternoon helping me weigh the options between education and communications.

And finally, Dr. Jay Moorman convinced me that communications was the path to take and acted as my adviser for the last two years of my undergraduate education.

His insight on the intrapersonal and organizational fields fascinated me and later challenged me to get my master's in human resource management and technical education.

As I approached graduation I felt some of the same fears that I experienced earlier.

I again took advantage of what Southern had to offer, and it made my life much easier.

Career services provided many useful services to graduating seniors. The job bulletin and mock interviews provided me with lots of information that I may not have ever known.

I talked to faculty who had attended graduate school in the four-state area. They provide me with great contacts and information on entrance requirements.

I know many students are going through this scenario right now. If you are finding yourself stressed out because you don't know what major to choose or career path to follow, let the services at Missouri Southern help you.

The faculty and staff are here to help make your college experience successful, but they do not know what each of their students needs from them. Help Southern help you. I did, and it worked.



Holley Goodnight  
Women's residence hall director

### THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995)  
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MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97)

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AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM

# Starbird shares love of cars with all

By TERESA BLAND  
STAFF WRITER

Customizing cars and building prototype automobiles has been Darryl Starbird's labor of love for more than 40 years. With his National Rod and Custom Car Hall of Fame, he is sharing that love with people of all ages.

The museum, which is opened in June 1995, is located on 80 acres on Monkey Island at Grand Lake in Oklahoma. The "bubble-topped" museum houses 21 one-of-a-kind cars, including 20 built by Starbird.

"We will have representation of all the builders around the country as the years progress," he said. "We plan on making the museum bigger as time goes on."

The museum is a nonprofit foundation that honors and preserves the efforts of custom car builders. Thirteen builders, including Boyd Codding, George Barris, Ed Roth, Starbird, and Alexander Brothers, were inducted as the first charter members.

"We've donated walls around the inside of the museum to the different builders that we induct and tell their story in picture form," Starbird said.

The walls also display photographs of some of the 200 cars he has built in his 45-year career.

Starbird's customizing career began in Wichita, Kan.

"When I was in high school, I loved cars, like a lot of guys do," he said. "It was the 50s, and custom

cars and hot rodding was just beginning to get started on the West Coast."

Starbird saw pictures of the latest craze in car magazines and decided to build cars for a hobby.

"In high school, I had a '41 Ford customized to make it look like a California custom car," he said.

Starbird went to Wichita State University with the intention of becoming an aeronautical engineer.

"After three years, I decided that cars were my first love, so I quit school and started up my first shop in 1954," he said.

Starbird started producing car shows in an effort to educate people about custom car building and design.

"I did my first hot rod and custom car show in Wichita in 1957 and started doing 15 shows a year, for a lot of years," he said.

The shows expanded into Oklahoma City, Kansas City, Oakland, and San Francisco.

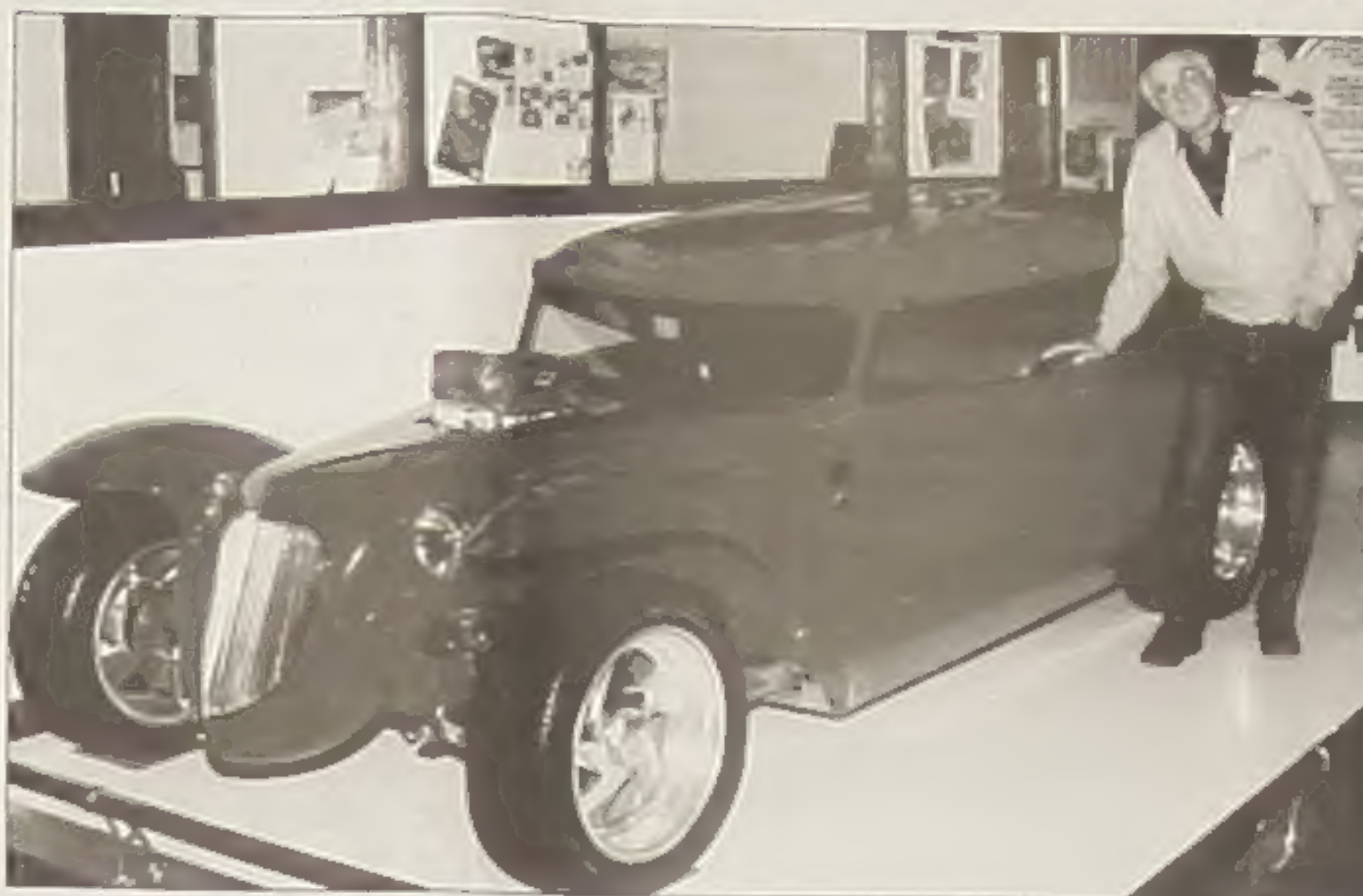
"We even sent six cars to Europe for a 24-city tour," Starbird said.

Building and customizing cars is done in several ways.

"Customizing is taking an existing body and customizing it to your own likes and dislikes, such as changing headlights, grills, or redesigning the body," he said. "Building is like a hand-made car. It's an original design done from the ground up."

"I prefer to do both."

"Predicta" and "Lil Coffin" are two of Starbird's creations making their home in the Hall of Fame. "Predicta," built in 1959, was his



Darryl Starbird's customized car, "Lil Coffin," is one of many gems in his museum, located west of Junction 125 and 85A on Monkey Island at Grand Lake in Oklahoma. The museum is open Wednesdays-Saturdays.

first bubble-topped custom car. It is also the most famous, with a historical value of over a half-million dollars.

The "Lil Coffin" is the oldest car in the museum.

"It was one of the early cars that I built. I started it in 1957," he said.

Monogram put a model of "Lil Coffin" on the market, where it sold over a million world-wide. The company recently re-released the design, much to Starbird's satisfaction.

"I feel that it's an accomplishment," he said. "A lot of cars will disappear, but model cars can be put back in the box and put away as collector's items."

Of all the cars he has created, Starbird doesn't have a favorite one.

"I have four kids, and that's like asking which kid I love the best. I

love them all," he chuckled. "Predicta" is probably the one that stands out in my mind because it was the first one to give me national recognition as a builder and a designer."

Starbird said he hopes to someday build his favorite custom car.

"As you're building one, you're always thinking about the next one, so your favorite keeps developing," he said.

"I think it's to be unique, to be creative," he said.

"It's a fascination, a love affair with the automobile that Americans, both men and women, have had forever."

"On Home Improvement, Tim Allen has emphasized what it's all about, with him in the garage, building his hot rod."

He expresses the kind of love, dedication, and fascination that a

man has for the automobile. For me, I do it as an accomplishment and a chance to design something different, a chance to express myself creatively and artistically. I'm building a new one right now. I still love doing it after all these years."

Starbird will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of custom car productions with special shows in Wichita and Oklahoma City.

The museum's second anniversary will be highlighted June 21-22 with an Outdoor Car Show Celebration.

The museum is located west of junction 125 and 85A on Monkey Island. It is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays, or by appointment on off days by calling (918) 257-4234.

Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. □

## Nuts & Bolts

### If Camaros could talk...

Two weekends ago, a couple of rednecks stopped by our house, wanting to know if the 1967 Camaro in the weeds out back was for sale.

Funny thing about old Camaros sitting in the weeds: Everybody thinks they may be for sale.

One of them was seriously inquiring about buying the car, and the other one sounded drunk, hollering, "I'll give ya \$500 for it!"

The answer to that particular offer was no. My husband, Justin, got the car when, at 4 years old, he wrote his name in the dust on the car, claiming it as his own. His (apparently dotting) grandfather then bought it for him. You don't let go of a car with a story like that very easily, even if you are letting the dew on the weeds brushing the undercarriage rust it every morning and every evening.

Indeed, I had asked Justin that same question—"is it for sale?"—when I met him. I had to marry him to lay some claim to the car, and I have a certain affection for it now. Having been reminded of its existence, I pawed through the trunk that Sunday afternoon. There was water pooled on the trunk floor, so I dried it out as best I could, noticing the original jacking instructions and wiring insulation, all the worse for wear. I closed the trunk lid, realizing that my efforts would be rendered futile with the next rain. With this knowledge, I went inside to look for prices on trunk seals.

I asked Justin about it that evening. "Oh, that trunk seal's been leaking since 1978," he said.

Later we were discussing childhood memories, and the Camaro came up again. It would be interesting to listen if the car itself could tell stories, but the ones Justin was telling were just as fascinating.

"I remember one time my dad and my uncle were in the front, and they each had a beer, and we were running away from the cops. They kept telling me to get down, but I was curious, so I looked out the back window and I saw flashing lights chasing us," he said. This was also the time he looked at the speedometer needle and saw it hanging below 130, the last digit on the dial.

Another time, his mother and aunt had the car at the grocery store, young Justin yet again relegated in the back seat. His mother accidentally backed the car into a light pole. "I remember thinking, 'Mommy wrecked my car!'" Justin said.

We hope to restore that damage, beginning the restoration perhaps this summer. This urge was only amplified by Nevada's recent high school prom, to which a really slick '68 Camaro took one young swain and his girl. This car was so clean, it made me want to go straight home and start ordering parts to make our car look just as good. But yet still I wonder: Could any future our Camaro has? We'll be waiting with anticipation to find out. □



Leslie Roberts  
Automotive Editor

AUTOMOTIVE FEATURE

## Should college students lease or buy their new cars?

### Jones doesn't recommend lease option to students with heavy driving loads

By TERESA BLAND  
STAFF WRITER

Purchasing a new car at today's prices may seem out of the question for college students living on a limited budget. Leasing a new car may be a solution, but shoppers are encouraged to know their needs when weighing the options.

"The first question I would ask them is how many miles a year they drive," said Tim Jones, sales and leasing consultant at Miami (Okla.) Ford Lincoln-Mercury. "A lease works for a lot of people, it's a good program, but for some people, it doesn't work because of mileage."

According to Ford's "Leasing Made Easy" booklet, the lessee is "responsible for mileage over 30,000 at 11 cents per mile" at the end of the lease.

Jones said he would recommend a lease program to college students if they didn't drive more than 15,000 miles in a one-year period.

"If you are financing a vehicle, things may change in a year, and you might want to trade again," he said. "You will owe too much on the vehicle because you've only paid interest charges to the bank. We call that being upside down."

"On a lease, you don't have that. You get more car for less money because you make a payment you can afford."

"If you finance that same type of vehicle, you pay a lot more money, you're committing yourself for a longer term, up to five years, and your payment is a lot higher."

Jones said payments vary, depending on the car being leased.

"Normally, a person can walk in and pick out a \$13,000 to \$15,000 car on a two-year lease and keep the payments in the low \$200s," he said. "If you were financing that same vehicle, the payments would be \$70 to \$80 a month more."

All that is required up front on a lease pro-

gram, Jones said, is the first month's payment, security deposit, tag, taxes, and title.

"The rebates from the manufacturer, in most instances, will cover those expenses, so there is no money out of their pocket," he said.

The lessee must also carry full-coverage insurance on the vehicle for the duration of the lease.

Jones said there are three options with a lease program: "They can pick out the vehicle they want that suits their needs at the time, they are only committed for two years, and, after the two years, they can walk away from the vehicle or purchase it for a pre-agreed price," he said.

He said the warranty on the vehicle will cover any maintenance problems the lessee may have.

"The vehicle has a three-year, 36,000-mile, bumper-to-bumper warranty, so if there are any problems, it's covered," Jones said.

The biggest plus, he said, is the fact that cars are changing and people's needs are changing.

"People trade vehicles too often anymore,

and a lease is beneficial because they can walk away from it," Jones said. "If they finance, they are locked in. In the long run, it saves money."

James Stoner, executive vice president with the Welch (Okla.) State Bank, said lease programs are more complicated than the purchase/finance option.

"A lease can look real good when actually it's not," he said.

Consumers wanting to purchase the car at the end of the lease may want to educate themselves better before agreeing to the terms of the lease.

"They need to look real close or they may pay a big residual at the end of the term," Stoner said.

He recommends getting quotes from different dealers and a second opinion.

"The legal part of the lease may be fulfilled, but I would go to someone who can calculate the yields for them," he said.

For some people, leasing is the way to drive a brand new car every two years.

"Some people go in and lease with no intent to buy at the end," Stoner said. □

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## CAMPUS CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### Today 24

**11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—**  
Koinonia Lunch, basement of Stegge Hall  
**12:20 p.m.—**  
Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 223  
**6:30 p.m.—**  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge  
**7 p.m.—**  
Zeta Tau Alpha meeting, Panhellenic room  
•Baptist Student Union, Thursday Night Together, BSU Building

### Friday 25

Deadline to apply for December graduation  
•Track plays host to MSSC Invitational, TBA  
•Softball in MIAA playoffs, Shawnee Mission, Kan. TBA  
**11 a.m.—**  
Chi Alpha meeting, Webster Hall, Room 115

### Saturday 26

Arbor Day  
**7:30 p.m.—**  
Stanley Harrison directs selected "Seagull" scenes  
Taylor Performing Arts Center

### Sunday 27

**6 p.m.—**  
Newman Club meeting, St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8th and Pearl  
**7 p.m.—**  
Sigma Pi meeting, Stegge Hall basement  
•Alpha Sigma Alpha meeting, Panhellenic Room

### Monday 28

Student Senate executive officer elections stairwell of BSC  
**2 p.m.—**  
Spring Fling virtual reality, Student Life Center  
**7 p.m.—**  
Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building  
**9 p.m.—**  
On-Campus Bible Study, Apt. H-7, Stone Hall

### Tuesday 29

Student Senate executive officer elections  
**Noon—**  
Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, BSC, Room 313  
**12:15 p.m.—**  
Non-traditional student brown bag lunch, Heames Hall, Room 211  
**12:20 p.m.—**  
College Republicans meeting, BSC, Room 311  
**2:15 p.m.—**  
Chi Alpha meeting, BSC, Room 311  
**6 p.m.—**  
Spring Fling talent show, Webster auditorium  
**7 p.m.—**  
Koinonia main meeting, College Heights Christian Church

### Wednesday 30

Student Senate Picnic/Installation  
•Spring Fling Movie Night, Dickinson Theaters  
**11 a.m.—**  
MSSCACA presents "Child Abuse Within the Criminal Justice System", Webster auditorium  
**Noon—**  
Psychology Club, Taylor Hall, Room 123  
•CAB general board meeting, BSC Room 311  
**7:30 p.m.—**  
Symphonic Band concert, Taylor Performing Arts Center

## CAMPUS ACTIVITY

# Fling promises break from finals blues

By BRIAN PALMER  
STAFF WRITER

With finals week rapidly approaching, many Missouri Southern students are searching for a moment's respite. The Campus Activities Board has the answer: Spring Fling '97.

Beginning Monday, Spring Fling '97 runs until Friday, May 2, and promises to be an eventful week. Special events are planned for each day, culminating Friday with the all-campus picnic, a chinook helicopter landing on the Student Life Center's lawn, and "Lionpalooza."

"The Spring Fling is something people always look forward to," said Spencer Beck, CAB president. "We try to make it really interesting, really exciting."

The festivities kick off Monday with the

return of "virtual reality," which appeared at Southern last fall. This time more equipment will be available so more students will have the opportunity to try it. Virtual reality will be in the SLC from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and again will be free.

Tuesday brings back another popular event, free movie night at the Mall 5 cinema. Students may see one movie free with their student ID.

Wednesday hails the return of the "butt sketch artists."

"He draws a picture of your best side," Beck said. "He correlates posture, and it really does look like the person."

Students wishing to immortalize themselves this way need go no further than the Billingsly Student Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Wednesday. This is also free.

Wednesday also will have a talent show at 6

p.m. in Webster Hall auditorium. Sign-up deadline for prospective talent is 4:30 p.m. Monday in Room 102 of the BSC. Winners will receive prizes of \$75, \$50, and \$25.

"We heard some interested people were wanting another talent show," Beck said. "This is a new thing we're trying for Spring Fling."

On Thursday, May 1, students will be able to immortalize themselves another way — in a photo keychain. This service will be available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second floor of the BSC, again free.

The Student Senate casino night/United Way fund-raiser will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight on May 1 in the SLC. Many prizes will be given away. All proceeds go to the United Way.

"The major thing we're doing this year is the 'Lionpalooza,'" said Jason Foster,

special events coordinator for the CAB. "There's a lot of local bands around here with a lot of talent. So, for the entire day, we've got different kinds of bands playing."

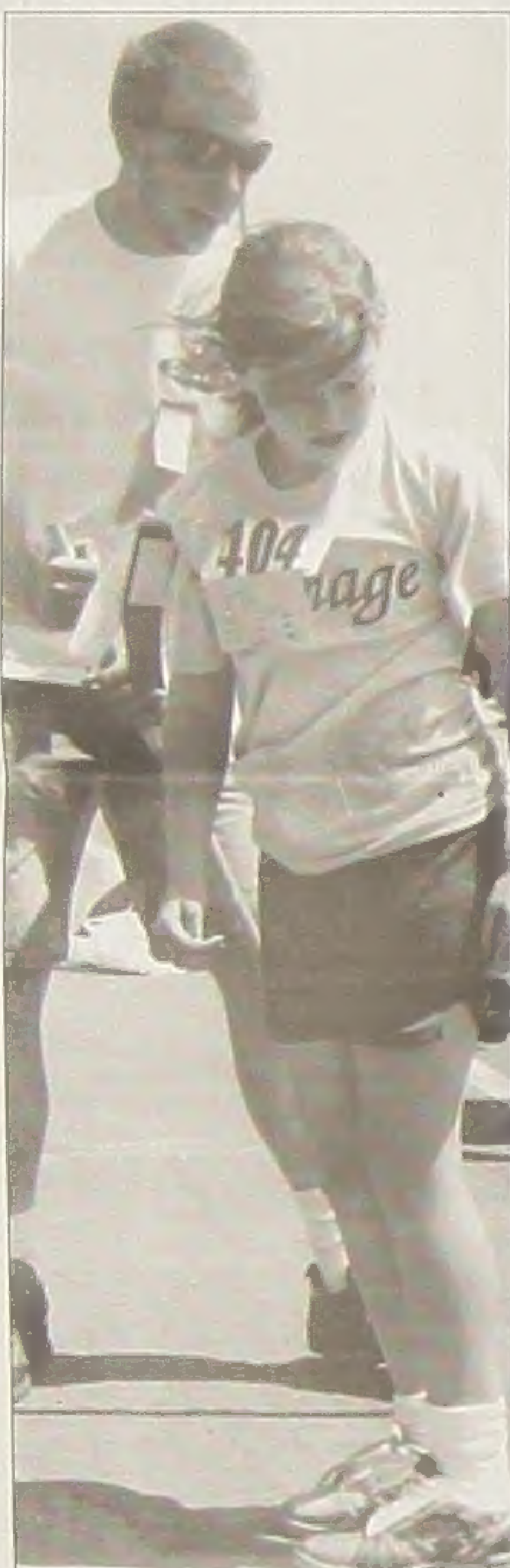
"Lionpalooza" takes place on Friday, May 2, along with the all-campus picnic, which runs from 10:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the middle of campus. Some of the bands featured are The Skeptics, RowSkaBouts, Monumental Radio, and Carbon Star.

As mentioned before, a chinook helicopter will land on the SLC lawn and students will be allowed to check out M-60s and M-16s as well as the helicopter itself.

Also on Friday is the Spring Fling dance, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Lions' Den in the BSC.

"Spring Fling is the equivalent of Homecoming, only in this semester," Foster said. "An entire week of fun." □

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Kevin Hardy (left), freshman undecided major and member of Sigma Pi, helps 7-year-old Hailey Burdge, of Seneca, in the standing long jump competition.

# SPECIAL WONDERS

## Volunteers gain lifetime experiences

By GINNY DUMOND  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Overcast skies and windy weather were not enough to keep the smiles from shining during Friday's Special Olympics games in Hughes Stadium.

Stephanie Sharp, a special education teacher from Cassville who was there with some of her students, said she thinks the games are important for several reasons.

"The kids feel success and get to be around new kids," Sharp said. "They get a feeling of accomplishment."

She also said the games provide an opportunity for the children to participate in things every other child does.

"They don't normally get to compete in regular things at school," Sharp said. "They get to compete, they get a ribbon, they know they've won something."

One of Sharp's students, Leslie Scheuerman, said the games are a good time for her.

"It's fun," she said. "I like the racing."

Scheuerman said the weather was a little cold, but she was OK.

"Just gonna go on with it," she said.

With more than 500 athletes competing, the games required substantial volunteer assistance, much of which was provided by Missouri Southern.

"I wanted to help out because I'm a special education major," sophomore Lindsey Burbridge said.

Working with Burbridge was sophomore education major Tammy Howe.

"We're all going to be dealing with these type of children," Howe said. "It's good to get the experience."

Kathy Higgenbotham, mother of 8-year-old Seth who jumped into her arms after the 50-meter dash, said she is thankful for the games.

"He needs the competition and interaction with other kids," she said. "He also gets a lot of excitement."

Freshman communications major Jody Mulvaney volunteered at the event as a representative from Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority.

"I get pleasure from the looks on their faces," she said.

Mulvaney also said she thinks it is important for campus groups to volunteer.

"It lets the campus know we care and we want to help the community," she said.

John Vaughn, Special Olympics coordinator, said volunteers are vital to the event's operation every year.

"We rely totally on volunteers," he said. "With 500 to 600 athletes we require a lot of help."

Vaughn thinks the games let the community know how much the athletes can do.

"Kids with disabilities often get the stigma that they can't do things," he said.

Vaughn says the event gives people hope and self-confidence.

"This is an encouraging day." □



MICHELLE CONTY/The Chart  
Katrina Justice, 5, of Mt. Vernon, leaps during the standing long jump.

## TESOL

# Program provides training

By HEATHER DEMIER  
STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern is offering a new undergraduate program that provides educators with strategies to help them better communicate with students who speak a different language.

Southern offers the first Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) program in the state. Through this program, instructors can receive the necessary training for TESOL certification.

Dr. Rosa Fagundes, assistant professor of education and director of the TESOL program, teaches two of the required classes this semester: Theories and Teaching of Second Language to Speakers of Other Languages, and Methods and Techniques for TESOL Students.

"I do encourage teachers to take these classes because it is something that is very much part of our reality here in Missouri," she said. "The number of immigrant children is increasing in classrooms."

Fagundes is originally from Brazil and has had first-hand experience with learning a second language herself as a teenager.

"It's not necessary for you to know another language in order for you to teach English to a non-native speaker," she said.

The 1997 spring meeting of TESOL in Missouri is being organized in part by Fagundes. It will take place on campus this weekend, with registration and a continental breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m. Friday. The registration fee is \$25 and includes breakfast and lunch on both days. Program sessions and events are planned throughout the day ending around 9 p.m., and will continue again on Saturday until late afternoon.

"I didn't know what to do, and my first problem was that I didn't know where to get any information," she said.

"I was just making up things. We really do need more certified people because we have nearly 35 students in Neosho that need daily help, and there aren't enough people to do it."

"I think classes give you the ammunition you need to deal with low-proficiency-level students in your classroom, and the theories of second language acquisition has really helped nail understanding down for me," said Don McBride, Spanish teacher at Neosho High School.

Kristen Cole, senior early childhood education major, presented "The Natural Approach in the Classroom" to her classmates on Monday evening and led them through a series of commands, such as "Raise your right hand" and "Close your eyes."

This series of simple instructions helps students recognize the meanings of words and helps them develop basic communication skills, Cole said. □

## INTRAMURALS

# Softball squads battle for final championships



Jennifer Kronkow, sophomore physical education major, hits during intramural practice Monday.

## Post-season begins today; title game set for Monday

By HEATHER DEMIER  
STAFF WRITER

As intramural sports come to an end this semester, six coed softball teams are battling to make it to the final championships.

The teams have been playing games at 3 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday at King Jack Park, said Cindy Wolfe, director of aquatics and intramurals. The playoffs start this afternoon, with the championships set for 3 p.m. Monday at King Jack Park.

"I like softball because it's spring time, and we've been indoors the whole winter," said Adrienne Lancaster, sophomore dental hygiene major.

Intramural sports have allowed students to make new friends, relax, and just have fun together.

"Playing on the team is very relaxing to me,"

Lancaster said. "I've been having a stressed-out life lately, and this is just a relaxing team."

Lancaster played softball in high school, but says not everyone on the team has played before. She encourages people to come watch her team, the Dingers, play because they do not always take the game seriously.

"It's just funny to watch because we have so many screw-ups," she said. "There's no boring moments."

Nathan Knust, sophomore business major, says there are a few strong teams, but everyone is just out there to have fun.

"The team names are the Dingers, Dirtdevils, Bigsticks, Forgetfuls, Gurus, and the Greeks," said Knust, who plays for the Dingers and is also their team coach.

With finals quickly approaching, the softball teams offer players a chance to let go and forget about the stresses of college life for a while.

"It's a chance to blow off some steam and be with your friends and goof off," said Steve Johnson, junior drama education major. "We're not really on a winning streak, but we're just having a great time, and that's what counts." □



# Arts ETC.

Thursday April 24, 1997

ART DEPARTMENT

Page 7

## Senior exhibit to grace campus gallery

By KATE WALTERS  
STAFF WRITER

A multitude of artwork will grace the floor of the Spiva Art Gallery these last few weeks of school. Three "Senior Art Shows" will give students a chance to show off their work.

The first exhibit, which ends Friday, features five students' works.

The second week will highlight four students, with four more the following week.

The exhibits will feature art in a variety of mediums, including painting, sculpting, drawing, jewelry, ceramics, and print making.

"Depending on the makeup of seniors exhibiting, you will find a wide variety of mediums," said Val Christensen, assistant professor of art and coordinator of the Spiva Art Gallery. "Each student tends to specialize or focus on certain areas."

The exhibit is part of a graduation requirement with students given free rein to exhibit what they choose.

"It's always a surprise, because the show and what comprises it is entirely up to them," Christensen said.

The students put together a portfolio, which helps them get ready for life after graduation. "I feel that my art is a personal reflection of my life," said Daniel Scott, a secondary education major with an emphasis in art.

Because the display shows off all the aspects of their work, there are a wide variety of things to view. "The vast majority of emphasis is on the creativity and capabilities in chosen areas, the different aspects of art, and the knowledge in the techniques," Christensen said.

Sarah Hall's attitude to art is that the little things in life make people happy. Hall, a senior art major, represents those things in her exhibit. "Landscapes, a laughing child,

and flowers are just a few examples of 'little' things that are often overlooked," Hall said.

On display this week are Nancy Erwin, Carl Junction; Sarah Hall, Carthage; Kim Bell, Harrisonville; Dan Scott, Joplin; and Linda Longstreth, Walker. Ryan Lauderdale, Goodman; Jean Schroter, Joplin; Cindy Duckworth, Joplin; and Gary Crim, Washburn, will be on display April 27-May 2. Marci LePage, Anderson; Clay Hagebusch, Carl Junction; Dawn Moore, Joplin; and Ronald Wroczynski, Joplin, will be on display May 4-9.

A reception for the art majors to kick off the next two exhibits will be held from 2-5 p.m. Sunday and May 4.

The hours for the exhibits are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Some of the pieces on display will be available for sale. The exhibits and receptions are free and open to the public. □



Melissa Newberry, sophomore graphic arts major, studies a painting in Southern's Spiva Art Gallery during the Senior Exhibit Tuesday. The exhibit, which runs until May 9, will feature works by 13 students.

## Coming Attractions

### On Campus



### Theatre

■ April 25-26—  
Anton Chekhov's  
'The Sea Gull' in  
Taylor Auditorium

### TAYLOR AUDITORIUM

April 30—Symphonic Band Concert

May 1—Hanover Band Concert - Nicholas McGegan

May 5—Orchestra Concert

May 8—Choir Concert

### WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

April 29—Gloria Jardon's Piano Students Recital

Concert

May 4—Jazz in Joplin - Trio Grande

May 10—Jazz Band Concert

### PHINNEY RECITAL HALL

May 15—Choral Society Concert

### SPIVA

April 20-May 9—Senior Art Student Exhibits

### Joplin



### Spiva

■ Through April 27—Spiva Annual art exhibit in Joplin

### THE BYPASS

624-9095

April 25—Oreo Blue

April 26—Kelly Hunt Band

### CHAMPS

782-4944

April 25-26—Raisin' Kane

May 2-3—Raisin' Kane

May 9-10—Next of Kin

### SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

623-0183

March 14-April 27—Spiva

Annual to be held in Joplin

May 3-June 8—"Borrowed From Nature", Sculpture Exhibit

### MEMORIAL HALL

623-3254

April 25—Twilla Paris

### GUITARS & CADILLACS

659-9870

May 13—Little River Band

### Carthage

### STONE'S THROW THEATRE

358-9865

May 1-2, 8-11—Silvia

### Kansas City

### ARROWHEAD STADIUM

May 19—U2

### SANDSTONE AMPHITHEATRE

May 3—Jimmy Buffett w/Pat Benatar

May 4—Bush w/Veruca Salt

June 2—Tina Turner w/ Cyndi Lauper

## THIS IS COOL

Idalle Jansson, senior graphic arts major, examines one of the Raku pots on display at the annual pottery sale in Phinney Hall.

MICHELLE CONTY/The Chari



## PRO MUSICA

## Band to perform period pieces

Guest conductor will lead orchestra in Taylor Auditorium

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Music of the 18th and 19th centuries will be the focus of a performance in Taylor Auditorium on Thursday, May 1.

The famous Hanover Band of London will perform selections by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, and Rossini. Pro Musica is presenting the concert.

The Hanover Band is not a band in the modern definition of the word — it is an orchestra.

"A band is the old term for any group of musicians from the time of Louis XIV, in France," said Cynthia Schwab, director and

founder of Pro Musica. "Since they (Hanover Band) play 18th and 19th century music, they chose to retain that name."

"They are an orchestra — and a very fine one."

The evening's entertainment will include two special guest soloists. Theodora Hanslowe, British mezzo soprano, will sing a series of Mozart arias, and Gary Brodie, clarinetist, will play a Rossini solo clarinet piece. Guest conductor will be Nicholas McGegan. The concert finale will be a symphony by Schubert. To accentuate their period music, members of the Hanover Band play their concert using period instruments.

"The instruments are the same (as in other concerts), but they are made differently," Schwab said. "A violin is a violin, but in the 18th century they had gut strings. There was a different res-

onance to them because a chamber orchestra plays in a smaller space than a symphony orchestra."

"In the late 19th century, when you started having large symphonies, metal strings started to come into use, so these are the instruments that would have been in use at the time the composers wrote the works. The Hanover Band can be heard regularly on classical radio stations."

"Anybody who has listened to a classical radio station has heard records by Hanover Band," Schwab said. "Their discography is vast."

The concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for reserved seats, \$12 for general admission, \$16 for senior citizens, and \$11 for students.

They are available at the Southern ticket office in the Billingsly Student Center, or by phone at 625-9366. □

## LOCAL BANDS

## Locher enjoys playing punk tunes

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

An advertising poster for Gibson guitars on the wall of his office is the only hint a person might get of the sociology instructor's weekend job.

During the week, Dr. David Locher gives lectures and grades papers. As an assistant professor of sociology, that is his job, and he has no intention of giving that up, not even for his second pleasure in life, playing guitar.

"Even before I started teaching, I knew this was going to be my career," Locher said. "I've always said, 'I'm not a guitar player that goes to college; I'm a college student that plays guitar...now, I'm a professor who plays guitar.'"

"I have no interest in becoming a professional musician. If I did, I wouldn't have gone to college for 10 years."

Locher plays guitar for U.S.M.C. (Uncle Sam's Misguided Children), a local punk-rock band. He joined the band, formerly known as the Richards, late last semester when its other guitar player left.

He was interested in joining for a couple of months.

"When I first moved here, I went to every show I found out about," Locher said. "I tried out with a couple of bands and a couple of different people, but I wasn't able

to find someone who played what I liked or liked what I played."

"In September, I saw them (U.S.M.C.) play in Springfield with their old guitar player," he said.

"When I heard their tape I just thought 'Well...they're all right.' But when I saw them play, I thought 'Man...these guys are pretty good.' So for about three weeks I thought about talking to them about having two guitar players."

As it turned out, Locher didn't have to convince U.S.M.C. to hire a second guitarist. Brian McDonald, the guitarist at that time, quit, leaving an opening in the band.

"I had to learn all the songs in three or four practices before the first show," he said. "At that time we could only practice on Saturday or Sunday. That was it, just one practice per week. Then, boom..."

Locher has been playing in bands for years. He came to Southern at the beginning of the fall semester after teaching at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

He played guitar for a band there, too, but U.S.M.C. is something new for him.

"I never played quite this kind of music before," he said. "In Ohio, I was in several different bands who were sort of punk or sort of

alternative, but definitely not the kind of music this band plays, real super fast."

"I took one of my songs from the band I was in before and made it twice as fast," Locher said. "I showed it to them (U.S.M.C.), and they thought it was too long and too slow."

Some of U.S.M.C.'s members think their music has been changing since admitting Locher into the band.

"The lyrics have changed a lot," said Dan Johnston, lead vocalist and a sophomore sociology major at Missouri Southern. "I have a different opinion about things. The lyrics of the Richards were about 'three years old. Once we had our set list, we never wrote new songs."

"As far as the music style goes, we've written some new songs, and Dave's improved some of our old songs for U.S.M.C.," he said. "As far as guitar playing goes, he's written about three new songs, but they're definitely different than our old songs, which is kind of good because we want some variety. You can't scream and yell for over a half hour without getting tired and needing a break."

Johnston is a student in one of Locher's classes, but neither their work in the band nor their friendship affords him any special consideration in class.

"My grades are proof of that," Johnston said. □



Dr. David Locher, assistant professor of sociology, plays guitar for U.S.M.C. at Schifferdecker Park. Locher joined the band late last fall.



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Ozark Christian College holds women's retreat

The theme for the 43rd Annual Women's Retreat is "Every Good Gift." The retreat will begin tonight and run through Saturday at Ozark Christian College, 1111 N. Main St., Joplin.

An estimated 800-plus women will attend the three-day event, which will conclude Saturday afternoon. The weekend includes five main sessions, two luncheons, and an evening banquet plus more than a dozen different workshops.

Speakers for the retreat include Julie Gariss of Joplin. Gariss has become nationally known by her humorous character, Mrs. Frump. Also sharing the program will be Linda Mirante from Wabash, Ind., who incorporates lots of humor in her inspirational messages. Music and worship will be provided by Carla Scott, also of Joplin. Scott is an accomplished musician and will inspire the audience with her musical talents.

This event is offered free of charge with offerings received during the main session and tickets sold for all meal functions. For more information or a complete schedule, persons may contact Ozark Christian College at 624-2518, Ext. 2013. □

### Hospital offers hearing and speech screenings

Are you or someone you love having difficulty communicating with other family members or friends?

St. John's Speech and Hearing Clinic will provide free hearing and speech screenings by appointment only during May in the Rehabilitation Center.

Screenings are available on a "first come, first serve" basis, with appointments being accepted beginning Friday, May 2, by calling 625-2962. Appointments are available from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1 to 4 p.m., Wednesday, May 7, for speech and hearing, and from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1 to 4 p.m., Wednesday, May 14, for hearing only.

Through these screenings, the presence of a speech or hearing problem can be identified. If you are already aware of a speech or hearing problem, these screenings would probably not be helpful for you, and you should make an appointment for a diagnostic evaluation.

Symptoms of hearing loss may include: difficulty understanding people in groups, or in the presence of background noise; others complaining that you turn up the television or radio too loud; delayed speech/ language development in children; and/or a work history in a loud environment of noise, and frequent use of firearms or power tools.

Symptoms of speech/ language difficulties may include: slurred speech due to stroke or head injury, or difficulty recalling words, reading, or writing; and/or difficulties with chewing or swallowing certain types of foods or liquids.

For more information, persons may contact St. John's Regional Medical Center at 625-2943. □

### Appeals court denies city annexation request

A city petition arguing against appointing a third attorney to Joplin's annexation proposal was struck down by The Missouri Court of Appeals on Friday.

Newton County Circuit Judge Ray Gordon had ruled that a third attorney should be appointed, but stated he would not take action until the city appealed his ruling.

The proposed annexation is of 2.5 square miles of property located south and west of the city.

Residents living in the area proposed for annexation had argued for a third attorney due to the fact that one had been appointed for those in favor of the annexation but not for those against it. □

### JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Park mashing fuels public concern

By AARON DESLATTÉ  
CITY NEWS EDITOR

For the last eight years, Joplin citizens living in the vicinity of McClelland and Wildcat parks have voiced complaints regarding acts of sexual misconduct in the public facilities. Joplin police now concede the problem may be increasing.

In the last year, the average number of arrests made for City Ordinance 26-71, which pertains to sexual misconduct in a public place, has nearly doubled. Authorities attribute the rise to an increase in violations of the ordinance rather than added enforcement.

### Defining Sexual Misconduct

Sec. 26-71:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to expose his genitals in any public place.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person in a public place to solicit, request or engage, whether for financial consideration or not, in any act defined in Section 26-74(b) of this chapter.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit or request another person to engage in sexual conduct under circumstances in which he knows that his requests or solicitation is likely to cause affront or alarm.

"We first started getting complaints about eight years ago," said Lt. Carl Francis, patrol division commander for the Joplin Police Department. "We started enforcement efforts back then, but it didn't seem to curbe the problem. We're not doing anything that much differently than a few years ago. We're just doing it more often."

Francis attributes the rise in violations to advertisements for McClelland Park on the Internet and in nationally known gay and lesbian magazines.

Violations and arrests, however, are not the only increasing trends, Francis says. Citizen outcry concerning the parks has reached an all-time high.

"We get complaints every day about what occurs in the park," he said.

"We received some complaints recently by some fathers of Little League players who basically told us to take care of the problem or they would. What that complaint involved were people masturbating in front of Little League games."

One of the concerned citizens is Bob Beeler, director of the



Joplin police officers converge at McClelland Park to patrol the area. Increased surveillance is one of the strategies the Joplin Police Department plans to implement in order to neutralize the increase in sexual misconduct incidents.

physical plant at Missouri Southern. Seven years ago, Beeler purchased a home that adjoins McClelland Park and says he was unaware of the facility's dubious reputation at the time. He no longer makes such a claim.

"I see suspicious behavior [in the park] every day," he said. "I don't allow my daughter to walk through the park."

Although Beeler has never had any confrontations with offenders, the rest of his family can't say the same.

"My son had an incident in there," he said. "He was driving through the park, and his pickup experienced mechanical problems. Before he could get out and walk back to our house, he was approached."

Despite the fact that Beeler has lived adjacent to the park for seven years, he says he has witnessed little effort on behalf of the city to correct the problem. "We've made a tremendous effort in the past few years to increase the lighting levels on the [Southern] campus," he said. "If they would just revamp the existing lights in that park, that would deter a lot of things. I rarely see a patrol car in the park."

With similar complaints compiling on a daily basis, authorities say they are currently discussing new strategies in approaching the problem.

"We are going to increase enforcement and continue to do so until the parks become safe," Francis said.

"We'll try anything we can to clean those parks up."

Francis is also quick to discount concerns that the Joplin Police Department is singling out and enforcing the sexual misconduct ordinance, which is a misdemeanor crime, over other city ordinances.

"Show me another misdemeanor in town that makes our parks unsafe for children to play in," he said.

"We'll enforce any misdemeanor that is a hazard to our children."

Beeler shares the sentiment.

"It's a public place, and what they're doing is of a very private nature," he said.

"They should go to a hotel or wherever those people do that stuff." □

### RECREATION



RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

## Walking track troubles subside

By KIM GIBSON  
STAFF WRITER

Controversy surrounding the construction of a second walking/ jogging track has died down and Joplin may have the new track for summer use.

The first track, called "phase one" of a three-part project, is located in an open grassy area between Murphy Boulevard and Campbell Parkway and circles Joplin Creek. It has been in use for about two years.

"Phase two" is in the making, but has suffered from opposition from residents living along Campbell Parkway.

The main opposition facing construction of the track came from those who believed the park area should be left in an undisturbed state. The city acquired the land from Missouri Lead and Zinc, which is no longer in business. The land was intended for public use.

Still others believed that with the money the city was paying to keep the landscape, Campbell

Parkway should have more use. The idea finally came through Joplin City Council to create the track.

Chuck Brown, city attorney, said the purpose was to have a "minimally intrusive type of track where people could utilize that area of the city park system."

While some people still disagree with the decision to create a track, Brown said residents are "reasonably comfortable" with the outcome.

David Hertzberg, civil engineer for the city of Joplin, said another concern was that the track would run too close to Campbell Parkway. The intended track route was then moved away from the street to run adjacent to Joplin Creek.

"That addressed a lot of their worries," Hertzberg said.

The project is now in the design stage. Next a contractor will be hired to lay the gravel track and then the trail will be advertised. It should be completed sometime in the summer or fall.

The trail will be located between Connecticut Street and 15th Street next to the current jogging track. □



Fred and Judy Bjorling utilize 'Phase one' of the Joplin walking track.

### DRUG ENFORCEMENT

## Store regulates sales

By SCOTT HAAR  
STAFF WRITER

The nation's war on drugs has moved its battlefield into the aisles of a major department store.

Though no guns or federal agents are involved in the scene, Wal-Mart stores across the country have drawn a line for the scheming scientists of the drug underworld.

"We have had a relationship with the Drug Enforcement Agency for many years," said Alex Clark, Wal-Mart representative.

The DEA proposed a plan within the past year in which retailers of allergy and cold medicines would limit the amount of capsules one person could purchase in one transaction.

Wal-Mart stores are limiting the amount of capsules persons can buy in six packages for most prod-

ucts and three for bottles containing 100 or more capsules. The capsules are commonly used as ingredients in the production of illegal drugs such as methamphetamine.

The plan, actualized in February, has drawn praise from federal law enforcement as well as local authorities, Clark said.

"The reactions we have received from authorities has been extremely positive," she said.

"It has been a very good help to us," said Jerry Neal of the Jasper County Sheriff's Department.

Neal said the plan keeps people from buying too much of one chemical.

"If persons want to buy in bulk they usually are required to deal with a pharmaceutical company," Neal said.

"If a person conducting illegal activity has to cross more barriers, they are less likely to do so. This is a very heads-up approach." □

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CRIMINAL LAW

# Bill proposes repealing death penalty

Schilling explains reasons for wanting to pull plug on state-run executions

By TAMMY SPICER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — With the Oklahoma City bombing trial beginning, the topic of the death penalty is on the minds of many people. It has been a concern of Rep. Mike Schilling (D-Springfield) for quite some time.

"I just think it is wrong for the state to be killing people," Schilling said. "There are other alternatives to capital punishment."

Schilling is the sponsor of a bill that would repeal the death penalty in Missouri. The state would join 31 others in the United States that do not have the death penalty.

Since the death penalty was reestablished

in Missouri in 1988, there have 21 executions in the state, with six just last year.

"It is inappropriate for the state to be playing Supreme Being," Schilling said. "We are all fallible, and should we be risking someone's life?"

Sentencing a criminal to life in prison would actually cost the state less than a death sentence, according to statistics from the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

"It has now been firmly established that the death penalty is very expensive — most estimates place the cost somewhere between four or five times the cost of imprisonment," wrote Sister Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking*, in a letter to Schilling. "Each execution costs millions of dollars. If we were really serious about reducing our high rates of crime, we would stop this silly rhetoric about the death penalty, abolish it, and use the cost savings to fund more effective interventions."

The bill has been assigned to the criminal

law committee and has received little support. It is unlikely the bill will be voted on this legislative session, according to Schilling.

"I have the fear that without the death penalty, crimes of violence would increase," said Rep. Rex Barnett (R-Maryville), a member of the criminal law committee. "As a retired highway patrolman, maybe people on the enforcement end look at the issue a little differently."

While he can try to understand how the families of victims may feel, Schilling said he doesn't believe in the eye for an eye mentality.

"Vengeance is the only justification for the death penalty," he said. "And that doesn't seem like a healthy situation."

He refers to the story by Prejean, *Dead Man Walking*, where she talks about how a couple spent years waiting for a man to be executed for the murder of their daughter. After the execution, the couple was left with a void because they hadn't been living for

anything except seeing this man killed.

"I think it is destructive to surround ourselves with violence," Schilling said. "And I think it is bizarre that our leaders are trying to get people to be civil and the same time they are killing."

The death penalty is simply accepted by society now, he said. Schilling pointed out that there is no organized movement to keep the death penalty, which shows how accepted it is.

"I certainly don't advocate the wholesale usage of the death penalty," Barnett said. "But I think it really needs to be there for the extreme cases."

Schilling suggests that perhaps the death penalty is being imposed unfairly. He asks what makes one murder worse than another, since not all murders are sentenced to death.

"It is the finality of the death penalty that really worries me," Schilling said. "If someone is sentenced to life in prison, innocence can still emerge. Innocent people have been executed." □

## STATE NEWS BRIEFS

### Internet casino violates Missouri gambling laws

A casino on the World Wide Web is the focus of Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon, who has asked for a court order to stop the business from offering gambling in Missouri.

"Internet gambling is the antithesis of the highly regulated and closely supervised limited forms of gambling that are legal in the state of Missouri," Nixon said. "These online casinos have no business representing to consumers that this gambling is legal in Missouri."

Nixon said an undercover investigator from his office who contacted Global Casino, a subsidiary of Interactive Gaming & Communications Corp., in February was told it was legal for him to participate from Missouri in a slots tournament conducted by the online casino. After opening an account with Global Casino, the investigator was able to place bets in a slots tournament in Kansas City.

Nixon is asking the Jackson County Circuit Court to halt IGC or its subsidiaries from violating state merchandising practices laws by offering gambling to Missouri consumers or by misrepresenting that such gambling activities are legal in Missouri. He is also asking for a court order of restitution and penalties from IGC. There is a hearing scheduled for a preliminary injunction on Friday. □

### Missouri rivers rate higher than initial study

Data from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) show a much better percentage of compliance with the federal Clean Water Law than a national report released earlier this month. The report, released by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG), ranked Missouri among the top five in the country in percentage of Clean Water Law violations.

DNR Director David Shorr disagreed with that assessment. "In the five quarters from January 1995 to March 1996, our data shows 73.4 percent of industrial sources were in compliance with the Clean Water Law," he said. This figure compares to PIRG's 43.5 percent.

PIRG developed its report by studying a national computer database of the largest municipal and industrial wastewater dischargers in the country. DNR used the same statistical analyses as the Public Interest Research Group, but DNR used state files to gather compliance information. DNR's database feeds the national database, but, because of problems, all Missouri data was not completely transferred into the national database. □

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

Tyler Lueckenhoff, from St. Peter's School in Jefferson City, concentrates on his shot.

# Capitol celebrates Earth Day activities

By TAMMY SPICER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Dirt, puppets, and trees were all on hand at the Capitol Monday to help celebrate Earth Day.

The event, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, was held in the Capitol and on the front lawn.

"We have had about 500 children come through," said Susie Stonner, public information officer for the State Emergency Management Agency, who staffed a booth at the celebration. "During the noon hour a lot of legislators visited also."

Several state agencies participated in the day's events, including the Office of Administration and the Missouri Departments of Public Safety, Insurance, Labor, Mental Health, Health, Conservation, Corrections, Transportation, Agriculture, Economic Development, Social Services, and Elementary and Secondary Education.

"I am learning a lot about our drinking water," said Brian Amick, a student from St. Peter's school in Jefferson City. "It's been real fun."

There were dozens of booths set up on the first and third floors, showing children and adults alike everything from the detriments of pollution to the benefits of farming



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

Curtis Ogg, environmental engineer with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, shows the differences in drinking water to a visitor at Earth Day celebration.

"This is a good way to teach kids about one of the biggest natural disaster threats in Missouri, the New Madrid fault," Stonner said.

One of the more popular booths was the Missouri Department of Transportation's

where employees were passing out White Pine seedlings to anyone interested in growing a tree.

"If it takes, it will look great in my front yard in a few years," said Macey Jett, a visitor to the Earth Day festivities. □

SENATE

## Plan offers tax options

By TAMMY SPICER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Now that the April 15 tax deadline has passed and all Missourians have paid their dues to the state, it is now time for the state to even things up with taxpayers.

That is the purpose of a new plan introduced Tuesday by Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca). The Family Fairness Tax Relief Plan calls for a five-step process to return money to taxpayers in order for the state to conform to the Hancock Amendment.

"There is a substantial amount of unfairness in the tax code," Singleton said at a press conference in his office. "This plan is targeted directly at that unfairness."

The Hancock Amendment was added to state constitution in 1980. The intent of the amendment was that state revenues would not increase faster than personal income. For the past three years, the state has collected excess taxes under the Hancock Amendment. There are several plans surfacing on how to get back under the tax lid.

Gov. Mel Carnahan strongly supports the elimination of the three-cent food sales tax. A bill of that plan has been supported by the House of Representatives.

"We understand and realize that there are other plans out there," said Chris Sifford, the governor's spokesman. "We will continue to focus on the elimination of the food sales tax. We feel this is the fairest and fastest way to return money to the taxpayers."

Singleton's plan contains five elements:

- Full deductibility of all FICA taxes for all Missourians. Currently, only taxpayers who itemize receive this deduction; the rest, about 80 percent, get taxed on a tax.
- The first \$6,000 of a private pension would be exempt from the state income tax.

### Savings Comparison:

■ Two options for complying with Hancock Amendment (out different tax cut savings).

Family of four income	Gov. Carnahan's Food Tax Cut Savings	Family Fairness Tax Relief Plan Savings
\$20,000	\$84	\$163.80
\$25,000	\$105	\$186.75
\$30,000	\$126	\$209.70
\$35,000	\$147	\$232.65

Source: Mo. Republicans TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

This exemption is already available to state and federal retirees.

- The first \$6,000 of Social Security benefits would be exempt from the state income tax.

- The dependent exemption would be increased from the current level of \$400 to \$1,000. This exemption has not been increased in more than 50 years, according to Singleton.

- All money collected in excess of the Hancock Amendment in the future will be refunded according to law.

"In every case, this tax relief plan puts more money back into the pockets of Missourians than does any other refund avoidance plan," Singleton said. "This fixes some serious fairness issues, too."

The elimination of the food sales tax would save taxpayers an estimated \$230 million a year, according to Sifford. Singleton said the Family Fairness Tax Relief Plan would save Missourians approximately \$320 million.

In a comparison provided by the Republican Party, a family of four earning \$20,000 would save \$163.80 under Singleton's plan and \$84 under the governor's plan.

"With only three and a half weeks left in this legislative session," Singleton said, "I think it's time the public becomes involved in this discussion." □

## HIGHER EDUCATION

# Gambling funds scholarship

By TAMMY SPICER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Affordable higher education seems to be the focus of many people in Jefferson City.

While the Challenge Scholarship program is being pushed by the governor's office, there are still other ideas in the legislature.

"I have a big concern for kids who are smart enough to go to college but don't have enough money," said Sen. Ken Jacob (D-Columbia).

Jacob is sponsoring a bill that would establish the Missouri College Guarantee Program.

"Several years ago, I was serving on a business and education partnership commission," Jacob said. "And I learned that about 28,000 students who qualified for the Missouri Student Grant program were not able to receive any funding."

The program plans to use funding from the Gaming Commission Fund. All money collected, beyond funding costs and \$500,000 for programs for the homeless and gang-related crimes, would go into the Missouri College Guarantee Fund. Currently, the money goes into the "Veterans' Homes Capitol Improvement Trust Fund" and is used to build and maintain veterans' homes and cemeteries and will continue until July 1, 2000.

"I have been looking for a way to fund a college guarantee," Jacob said. "And then I found the excess money from the gaming commission."

Jacob's plan calls for the money to go into the college guarantee fund starting July 1, 2000, with scholarships available that same fall term.

To receive a scholarship, an applicant must meet several requirements.

- Have financial need using the standards for the Missouri Student Grants Program.
- Have a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher on high school core curriculum.
- High school curriculum must be college or technical preparatory.

"I have been looking for a way to fund a college guarantee."

Sen. Ken Jacob  
D-Columbia

- Must achieve a minimum ACT test score of 20, or an SAT composite score of 950.
- Possess no criminal record.
- Have participation in extracurricular activities.
- Must be enrolled and accepted at an institute of higher education within two years of graduation.
- In order to maintain scholarship, applicant must make satisfactory progress.

The scholarships, which would cover tuition, books, and materials, would be used at public or private institutions in Missouri, according to the bill. The maximum amount of the scholarship would be equal to the cost of the largest University of Missouri school.

Jacob said the Challenge Scholarship isn't enough because the \$1,500 tax credit would make community colleges only an option for those who couldn't afford the difference.

"We want to make the 13th and 14th years of school commonplace," said Chris Sifford, the governor's spokesman. "We think that in order for something to be commonplace, it must be made available to everyone equally."

The constitutionality of the excess gaming commission funds is also questioned by Jacob. Gaming proceeds are supposed to go toward education, he said.

"I feel the money could be better used to provide kids who need it with a college education," Jacob said. □

### Television advertising raises some concerns

Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon has called for television networks to limit the content of promotional advertisements during family programming in an effort to shelter young children.

"Children in Missouri are frequently exposed to graphically violent and sexual scenes promoting other programs during family-oriented shows," Nixon said. "This is a legitimate concern for parents of young children in Missouri, and we feel this is a serious issue that needs to be addressed by the major television networks."

Nixon and other attorneys general signed a letter to the major television networks urging them to limit the content of promotional advertisements during family shows.

"It's understandable that many parents become irritated when they see violent and sexual content used to promote shows during commercial breaks of family-oriented programming," he said. □



Sports SCOPE

L. Dee must come here; not Pittsburg

Ever hear of a human Band-Aid? For the Missouri Southern men's basketball program, the human fixer-upper goes by the name L. Dee Murdock.

The L. doesn't stand for anything. The Dee? Well, that's his first name.

His middle name is Eugene, and of course, his last name is Murdock. Three names and one initial, which doesn't stand for his middle name, but for his first name. Confused? I am.

But one thing I do know is that getting the former University of Missouri sophomore center to come to Southern and mend the Lions' wounds will take some heavy-duty elbow grease from Lions' head coach Robert Corn.

Is it a pipe dream? Maybe. But it is a chance for Corn to pull a major recruiting coup and prove to the College and the conference he wants the Lions to dominate the MIAA.

Now the table is set, with L. Dee Eugene Murdock as the main course. Who else will be attending the feast? According to his father, Gene, his son has already invited Southern to join the festivities, along with Pittsburg State, Southwest Missouri State University, and the University of Mississippi.

But the question as to who will be serving Murdock on their home court is still left unanswered. "He wants to be in a more positive atmosphere," Gene Murdock said.

Now is the time for Corn to act. With the possibility of Murdock attending a Big 12 conference program next fall out of the picture due to NCAA regulations, his eyes may be focused on coming closer to his hometown of Columbus, Kan., according to his mother, Donna Murdock. Southern and Pittsburg State are the two closest programs.

What does Southern offer that PSU doesn't? Not much. The Lions' Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium is down-right pathetic when compared to the 5,000-plus seating provided at the Gorillas' John Lance Arena. And the Lions' on-the-court performance doesn't show the Kansas product much either. The Lions, who have made the MIAA post-season tournament once in the past four seasons, are almost a guaranteed pretender — not a contender — for the MIAA title each season.

Now, it is up to Corn to talk a good game and deliver the goods. With Murdock, who averaged 5.4 points per game in a reserve role last season for Mizzou, in the starting line-up, a MIAA post-season tournament berth would no longer be a worry for the Lions but a reality. Also, Murdock teamed with Lions' junior center Matt Olson would be the MIAA's top one-two punch in the paint.

Last season, opposing teams put Olson under the microscope. But with the emergence of Murdock in the middle, the attention would be lifted from Olson, freeing the 6-9 power forward to score at will.

If Corn puts forth an effort to recruit Murdock, then it is still a job well done. But if the former Tiger heads to PSU next fall, then look out Lions, because it's going to be another season in the Gorillas' shadow.



Rick Rogers  
Editor-in-Chief

BASEBALL

Lions head to tourney as underdogs

Southern to battle MIAA-foe Washburn in tournament's first round in Topeka, Kan.

By NICK PARKER  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On deck for the Lion baseball squad, the MIAA conference tournament, Missouri Southern (12-10 MIAA, 25-21 overall), the fourth seed, is slated to play No. 1 Washburn (10-10, 22-21) at 2 p.m. Friday in Topeka, Kan.

The Lions will be seeking to avenge an 8-3, 6-5 doubleheader loss to Washburn on April 11. "Washburn beat us twice already this year," said junior shortstop Bobby Braeckel.

"They know how to throw our hitters. They basically threw everything away from the plate. We have to know what to look for. They are

going to pitch away, and we need to expect that."

Braeckel said even with the recent losses, Southern appears to have a new confidence heading into the upcoming tourney.

"The way we've reacted to recent losses and the atmosphere of practices lately gave me that sense," he said. "It's intense, yet laid back and relaxed. It seems like we are in the right atmosphere and the right kind of mood going into the tournament. We feel we can compete with and beat any team there."

Head coach Warren Turner said he was also noticing the confidence level of his team.

"We've had some time off to gather our thoughts," he said. "Right now we've got to be relaxed and just go out and play ball. To win the tournament, you have to be good in all avenues."

Turner said his young team has gained valuable experience throughout the season that should play a role in the team's performance

during the tournament. "They've played a good schedule," he said. "After 50 games or so, they should be pretty experienced. The freshmen players should not be freshmen anymore."

Southern will look for its defensive play to improve during the tournament.

The Lions are currently sixth in the conference in fielding.

"We have to count on our defense," Braeckel said. "I know it's a cliché, but defense wins ball games."

"We have to keep the errors down and make the routine plays to win. I think we can score runs, but we have to tough on defense."

Southern's offense has exceeded pre-season expectations.

The Lions are fourth in the conference in hitting with a .324 batting average.

"We expected only to have four or five team home runs, we have one guy with that many," Braeckel said. "We've been surprised by the hitting ability." □

miaa baseball POST-SEASON

POOL NO. 1

- 1. CENTRAL MISSOURI VS.
- 8. MISSOURI WESTERN
- 5. WASHBURN VS.
- 4. MISSOURI SOUTHERN

POOL NO. 2

- 2. PITTSBURG STATE VS.
- 7. NORTHWEST MISSOURI
- 6. MISSOURI-ROLLA VS.
- 3. EMPORIA STATE

SOFTBALL



Southern's freshman third baseman Melissa Wheatley attempts a force out in earlier action this spring. The Lady Lions will open MIAA post-season tournament play against No. 2 Pittsburg State, in Shawnee Kan., Friday.

FILE PHOTO

Lady Lions face 'now or never' situation

miaa softball POST-SEASON

POOL NO. 1

- 1. CENTRAL MISSOURI VS.
- 8. SOUTHWEST BAPTIST
- 5. MISSOURI WESTERN VS.
- 4. WASHBURN

POOL NO. 2

- 2. PITTSBURG STATE VS.
- 7. MISSOURI SOUTHERN
- 6. EMPORIA STATE VS.
- 3. NORTHWEST MISSOURI

By JASON OWEN  
SPORTS EDITOR

With a 6-8 record in the conference and a 16-14 record overall, the softball team has clinched a seventh-seed MIAA tournament berth.

The tournament, to be held this weekend in Shawnee, Kan., will pit the top eight MIAA teams against each other in a double-elimination bid for the conference crown.

"We are ready to play," said Shauna Friend, senior catcher. "I know we have not exactly done great this year, but with the way we have been playing here lately, I know we can beat anybody."

Southern will open tournament play against second-ranked Pittsburg State (17-7, 36-14) on Friday. Friend said who the Lady Lions played was not important; she was just happy to be playing.

"I could really care less who we drew for the first round," she said. "We knew we were going to be ranked low. I am just glad we made it."

Junior second baseman Jennifer Jimerson said she held a different view of the upcoming Pittsburg

State matchup. "I would be lying if I said I did not really want to beat them," she said. "Last time we played them they swept us in a doubleheader, and that left a bad taste in my mouth. I feel like this time if we can go out and just execute the plays we should be able to beat them."

For some of Southern's players, this will be their last MIAA weekend.

"It is a little sad to know that this is my last weekend to play for Southern," said senior pitcher Jane Roberts. "I am just going to go out this weekend and give it my all and try to make it last as long as possible."

Friend also said she had mixed emotions about her last MIAA weekend.

"I am confident in my team's ability, and I am excited about playing this weekend," she said. "It will be a little sad, though, to put on my uniform for the last time."

While Southern's record might have some already counting the Lady Lions out, Jimerson said they will not go down without a fight.

"It is now or never," she said, "and we are ready." □

TRACK & FIELD

Throwers improve at meet

By JOE ECKHOFF  
STAFF WRITER

After being rained out two weeks ago, the Lions were back in track last week with a split squad going to meets at the University of Kansas and Central Missouri State University.

"We faced some very good competition," said coach Tom Rutledge. "It was good for us to run two meets in two days because that is how the conference meet is set up."

The Lady Lions had two provisional records set last weekend. Michelle Heimerman had a career-best in the hammer throw that also landed a school record. Coach Patty Vavra said she now has an excellent chance to qualify for nationals.

Runner Sonia Blacketer finished third at the Kansas Invitational with a provisional record of 37:00.43 in the 10,000-meter run.

Vavra was also pleased with the performance of thrower Stephanie Wainscott.

"The throwers are coming around, working hard, and throwing very well. They're both coming around at the right time," Vavra said. "Coach Rutledge works with them really well, and they're really improving."

Heather Hoyle also put in a good performance with her first-place win in the 100-meter run at CMSU with her best time of the year.

Her hopes for a win in the 200 meter were dashed when she suffered a possible pulled hamstring.

Ben Brainard had a good weekend for the Lions in the pole vault, setting a provisional record of 16-4 3/4 inches.

Rutledge believes the mark now ranks him at sixth or seventh in the nation.

Rutledge said he was also pleased with the performance of new runners Maurice Lewis and Torrey Thompson in the 400-meter relay. The team finished second in the event without the services of Darren Simmons and James Thrash. □

Southern Scoreboard

Lion Baseball

MIAA Standings	Through April 16
(conf, overall)	
1. Central Missouri	16-2, 25-9
2. Pittsburg State	17-7, 36-14
3. Emporia State	12-7, 22-12
4. Missouri Southern	12-10, 25-21
5. Washburn	10-10, 22-21
6. Missouri Western	8-9, 18-16
7. Missouri-Rolla	10-13, 16-16
8. Northwest Missouri	7-10, 15-18
9. Southwest Baptist	7-12, 17-16
10. Lincoln	7-14, 13-22
11. Truman State	3-15, 8-27

Southern Stats
Batting Average
1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU - .483
2. Bartel, Jeremy, Jr., ESU - .46
3. Contreras, Oscar, Jr., ESU - .431
4. Shorter, Brad, Jr., PSU - .416
Runs Batted In
1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU - 65
2. Bartel, Jeremy, Jr., ESU - 46
3. Goodwin, Dave, Jr., CMSU - 42
4. Myers, Matt, Sr., PSU - 56
Earned Run Average
1. Clark, Eric, So., CMSU - 2.95
2. Bybee, Mark, Jr., SBU - 2.98
3. Cronk, Daryl, So., PSU - 3.06

Lady Lion Softball

MIAA Standings	Through April 16
(conf, overall)	
1. Central Missouri	14-1, 26-7
2. Pittsburg State	10-4, 22-13
3. Northwest Missouri	10-5, 21-14
4. Washburn	8-5, 22-18
5. Missouri Western	7-8, 26-13
6. Emporia State	7-8, 17-15
7. Southwest Baptist	6-8, 20-14
8. Missouri Southern	6-8, 16-14
9. Missouri-Rolla	5-9, 29-17
10. Truman State	5-10, 18-15
11. Lincoln	0-14, 4-32

Southern Stats
Batting Average
1. Graham, Shelly, Fr., PSU - .550
2. Gunn, Shannon, Fr., MWSC - .470
3. Alt, Becca, Jr., UMR - .453
4. Sullivan, Megan, Fr., TSU - .394
Runs Batted In
1. Temple, Allison, So., ESU - 32
2. Urquhart, Amanda, Fr., NWMSU - 24
3. Atkins, Stacy, Jr., SBU - 33
4. Holston, Tabitha, Jr., PSU - 29
Earned Run Average
1. Trantham, Holly, Sr., MSSC - 1.00
2. Berg Mande, Sr., CMSU - 1.03
3. Teri Mathis, So., MSSC - 1.20

The numbers and facts every Lion fan should know.

This Week

- Friday —
- Missouri Southern Invitational Track Meet, Fred G. Hughes Stadium, TBA
- Baseball Lions at MIAA Conference Tournament, Topeka, Kan. TBA
- Softball Lady Lions at MIAA Conference Tournament, Shawnee, Kan., TBA
- Saturday —
- Baseball Lions at MIAA Conference Tournament, Topeka, Kan., TBA
- Softball Lady Lions at MIAA Conference Tournament, Shawnee, Kan., TBA







## Final Exam Question The Collect Call

What's the only number to use for all your  
collect calls that could instantly win you  
cool stuff (like classy Ray-Ban® sunglasses  
and Oxygen® in-line skates)  
every hour, every day?



- a) nope
- b) nope
- c) nope
- d) 1 800 CALL ATT
- e) go back one



**1-800  
call ATT**  
..... For All Calls



The one number to know  
for all your collect calls.

No purchase necessary. Must be a legal US resident age 13 or older. Calls will be accepted and 336 winners will be selected randomly between 4/14/97 (noon EST) and 4/28/97 (noon EST). Only completed domestic calls are eligible. Prize values: Skates \$199/Sunglasses \$169. Odds of winning depend on number of entries. For official rules and free entry instructions, call 1-800-787-3193. Void where prohibited. Ray-Ban is a registered trademark of Raych & Lomb Inc.

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